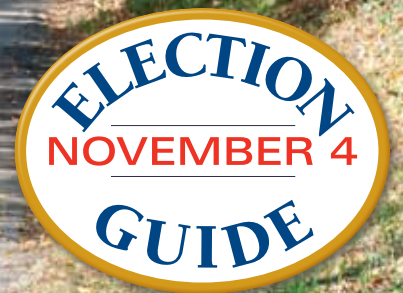


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KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU NEWS  
Volume 13 · No. 8  
October 2014

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President Dwight Eisenhower made a notable statement about the importance of voting, saying: "The future of this Republic is in the hands of the American voter."

Another oft-repeated quote about voting came from a Greek statesman, who said: "Just because you do not take an interest in politics doesn't mean politics won't take an interest in you."

Indeed, everyone in our great democracy is impacted by politics and the resulting public policy. Voting, of course, is the fundamental process that keeps our system of government working.

On November 4, Kentuckians will elect a U.S. Senator, those who represent us in the U.S. House of Representatives plus many members of the state legislature. If you watch television or follow the news in some fashion, I certainly don't have to tell you of the importance of these races for the U.S. Congress. Whom we elect could make a big difference in deciding crucial policies on immigration reform, taxes, energy, foreign relations, trade and the environment.

Meanwhile, Kentucky's General Assembly has a full plate of key issues important to the future of the Commonwealth. Many tough decisions on fiscal policy lie ahead. We need to know where our state lawmakers stand in regard to the state budget and the tax code.

Unlike many advocacy organizations, Kentucky Farm Bureau does not endorse candidates. That's in deference to a large, diverse membership.

Instead, we make a concerted effort to inform members on where the candidates stand on our issues. Our Public Affairs Division organizes many "Measure the Candidate" meetings to afford members an opportunity to interact with candidates on the federal, state and local levels. We use our communications tools – such as this publication – to inform members.

The bottom line is we encourage our members to look past the campaign rhetoric and closely consider how each candidate would treat agriculture and rural communities if elected.

This issue of KFB News features an Election Guide with a listing of the candidates for Kentucky's Congressional Delegation and State Legislature. With so much at stake on the federal level, we are spotlighting the race for the U.S. Senate, with candidates Mitch McConnell and Alison Lundergan Grimes explaining their positions on some key KFB policies. I urge you to refer to this section.



**Mark Haney**  
President  
Kentucky Farm Bureau



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## County Annual Meetings

ANDERSON COUNTY	
October 13	5:30 p.m.
Eagle Lake Convention Center	
BOYD COUNTY	
October 13	6:30 p.m.
Ken Franks Community Bldg.	
BRACKEN COUNTY	
October 7	7 p.m.
Extension Office	
CALDWELL COUNTY	
October 11	6:30 p.m.
UK Ag Research Center	
CARROLL COUNTY	
October 13	7 p.m.
Farm Bureau office	
CASEY COUNTY	
October 9	6:30 p.m.
Ag Expo Center	
CLAY COUNTY	
October 10	6 p.m.
Farm Bureau Bldg.	
FAYETTE COUNTY	
October 6	7 p.m.
Boone Center	
FLOYD COUNTY	
October 16	7 p.m.
Jenny Wiley State Park	
FRANKLIN COUNTY	
October 16	6:30 p.m.
Extension Office	
GREEN COUNTY	
October 9	6 p.m.
Green County High School	
HENRY COUNTY	
October 9	7 p.m.
Farm Bureau office	
JEFFERSON COUNTY	
November 11	7:30 p.m.
Farm Bureau Office	
LAWRENCE COUNTY	
October 21	6 p.m.
Down Home Grill	
MORGAN COUNTY	
October 9	6 p.m.
Martha Stacy Bldg.	
OWEN COUNTY	
October 6	6 p.m.
Extension Office	
PULASKI COUNTY	
October 14	6:30 p.m.
Southwestern HS	
TAYLOR COUNTY	
October 13	6 p.m.
Taylor Co. Middle School	



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.

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Brandon Davis ..... Frankfort  
Nick Carter ..... Lexington

#### KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU NEWS

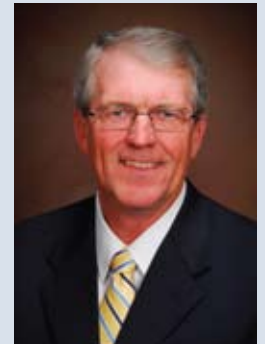
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## comment

### C O L U M N

Farm Bureau's tradition of success with policy issues stems from the sound judgment and common-sense approaches from our local leaders. These are people who are dedicated to improving agriculture and serving their community. That commitment is displayed during our resolutions process which currently is gearing up in preparation for the annual meeting.



As chairman of the State Resolutions Committee, I have a great appreciation of this process that sets a course for our organization. Our resolutions committee is vital, but it all begins at the local level, with county Farm Bureaus discussing issues and potential solutions.

Over the years, this approach has provided us with sound, accurate policies. Sometimes our policy originates from a casual conversation. On other occasions an idea emerges from a discussion at a county meeting. Whatever the instance, it's truly from the grassroots.

Next month the State Resolutions Committee will review recommendations from both county Farm Bureaus and our advisory committees. It's an experience the committee members welcome because they recognize that policy is the foundation of our organization.

Policies express Farm Bureau's fundamental ideas on community, county, state, national or international issues. Once adopted, these policies become the plan for the year's work. At our annual meeting delegates determine policies on a majority vote; it is then the responsibility of our public affairs professionals to work toward reaching the policy objectives. We not only pursue legislation, but we also track the implementation of programs and initiatives.

I look forward to working with the resolutions committee on a relevant policy agenda for our annual meeting.

**Eddie Melton**

1st Vice President

Chairman, Resolutions Committee

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## CSST program aimed at fire prevention

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aimed at exposing improperly  
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and businesses, thereby help-  
ing to reduce fires.

The National Association of  
State Fire Marshals (NASFM)  
launched the Yellow CSST  
Safety Campaign, which shows  
improper grounding of corru-  
gated stainless steel tubing  
(CSST) can cause fires when  
lightning occurs. Yellow CSST  
has been installed in more than  
six million homes in the U.S.  
since the 1990s, providing nat-  
ural gas and propane to resi-  
dential, commercial and indus-  
trial structures.

If lightning strikes in or near  
a structure, there is a risk it  
can travel through the struc-  
ture's gas piping system and  
cause a leak that, in some  
cases, causes a fire. Since 2008,  
manufacturer's instructions  
have required direct bonding  
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# ELECTION

# 2014



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THE FOLLOWING PAGES ARE A GUIDE  
TO THIS YEAR'S STATE CONGRESSIONAL  
AND LEGISLATIVE ELECTIONS.



# U.S. Senate Candidates



Secretary of State Grimes and Senator McConnell met with KFB's directors in August to discuss issues. KFB President Mark Haney presided over the meeting.

## FARM POLICY

A strong agricultural base is essential to any nation's long-term success and security. Farmers in the United States produce the world's safest, most abundant and most economical supply of food and fiber. Agriculture also plays a significant role in the production of renewable energy.

After more than two years of debate, extensions and much uncertainty the 2014 Farm Bill, The Agricultural Act of 2014, was signed into law on February 7, 2014. This bill established nutrition, commodity, crop insurance, conservation, and other ag/food programs for the next five years (2014 – 2018). The new farm bill is projected to cost just over \$956 billion over the next ten years, with about 80 percent, or just over \$760 billion, of the farm bill spending on nutrition programs. USDA is currently working on implementing the programs contained within the new farm bill with farmers anticipating just what some of the key programs will contain, and when signups will be held.

We support a consistent long-term market oriented farm policy that will provide an effective safety net for agriculture with an emphasis on commodity, working lands conservation, crop insurance, research and education and rural development programs.

### 1. How would you further strengthen national farm policy to protect our nation's safe and nutritious food supply by ensuring American agriculture remains a viable industry?

**MITCH MCCONNELL:** As Republican Leader of the Senate, I helped ensure passage of the 2014 Farm Bill. During the bill's consideration, I blocked an amendment that would have eliminated crop insurance for tobacco. Most notably, the final bill included my language reintroducing industrial hemp to Kentucky. I accomplished this by enlisting support from the Senate Republican conferees I appointed, and also by working with Speaker Boehner. Aside from the recent Farm Bill, I worked to secure enactment of the Fair and Equitable Tobacco Reform Act—or "Tobacco Buyout"—in 2004. This program provided Kentucky tobacco quota holders with \$2.5 billion in transition payments from 2005-2014. As a two-time winner of AFBF's Golden Plow Award and as a recent Friend of Farm Bureau recipient, I have a proven record of putting Kentucky farmers first.

**ALISON LUNDERGAN-GRIMES:** I would fight to make certain that the Farm Bill never is allowed to expire. I would support programs that expedite Kentucky agricultural exports, including reauthorization of the Export-Import Bank. I will vote for comprehensive immigration reform, oppose over-burdensome environmental and food-labeling burdens, and work to shield federal agricultural programs from arbitrary budget cuts.



# respond to policy questions

## 2. In what ways should revenue assurance and crop insurance programs play a more significant role in national farm policy?

**ALISON LUNDERGAN-GRIMES:** Affordable crop insurance is vital to protecting our family farms. The Farm Bill that finally passed earlier this year strengthens risk-management tools. The federal government must make certain, however, that farmers have understandable information to guide them as they choose between Price Loss Coverage (PLC) or Agricultural Risk Coverage (ARC) programs..

**MITCH MCCONNELL:** The 2014 Farm Bill I worked to pass included two new crop insurance programs, as well as a new dairy insurance program. I also was able to secure report language directing a specific study on potential crop insurance for alfalfa. Additionally, the bill reauthorized disaster assistance programs that are retroactive to 2012, a year of serious drought. These programs will help farmers continue to put food on American dinner tables during times of weak markets and natural disaster.

## 3. How would you support young and beginning farmers in future farm policy?

**MITCH MCCONNELL:** Young and beginning farmers benefit from 2014 Farm Bill, again a bill I helped shepherd through the Senate. The final bill provided young and aspiring farmers with greater access to capital and agricultural training opportunities.

Additionally, during the New Years Eve 2012 fiscal cliff negotiations, I negotiated a permanent increased exemption on the death tax set at \$5 million with a top rate of 40 percent, indexed for inflation. This allows young farmers to maintain family farming traditions without having to worry about paying the death tax.

**ALISON LUNDERGAN-GRIMES:** In the Senate, I will work to increase federal education funding to public high schools, community colleges and universities for training in agricultural pursuits. I will also fight to expand access to capital for our young farmers through federal farm loan programs and improve quality-of-life in our rural areas to support our farm families.

## INTERNATIONAL TRADE & MARKETING

Kentucky has a very diverse, and robust, agricultural industry. Cash receipts for agriculture in Kentucky for 2013 totaled over \$6 billion. Farmers have made extensive investment to enhance their production, but now increased market access is needed to increase net farm income for Kentucky farmers. The World Trade Organization (WTO) and free trade agreements (FTA's) affect how U.S. farmers compete on the world market, and uniform international phytosanitary guidelines are critical to trade.

We strongly believe in fair and open world trade. We also believe that crops produced with biotech traits are safe and important to meeting the rising world demand for food. As new traits are developed, they should be closely tested with the use of sound science. When approved, these new food products should be aggressively supported through domestic and foreign trade policy.

## 1. How can future FTA's be developed to enhance market opportunities for Kentucky and U.S. farmers?

**ALISON LUNDERGAN-GRIMES:** Tobacco should be treated as any other crop and not singled out unfairly for tariffs or other trade barriers. American farmers must not be excluded from foreign markets because of anti-GMO provisions that are not based on science, and food safety and phytosanitary provisions should be uniform throughout the nations covered by each agreement.

**MITCH MCCONNELL:** I supported past U.S. trade agreements with Colombia, Panama, and South Korea when they came before the Senate and was pleased when they were signed into law in October 2011. I would now like to see Trade Promotion Authority (TPA) enacted in an effort to complete the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) and the Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (T-TIP). Unfortunately, the President has not made trade a priority and has permitted his party, led by Harry Reid in the Senate, to block TPA. My opponent's strong supporters, the AFL-CIO, also oppose TPA and she has refused to state her position on recent trade deals.

## 2. What market policies should be in place to ensure U.S. farmers can participate in fair and open world trade?

**MITCH MCCONNELL:** We should not disfavor specific commodities in trade agreements— as it has been reported with respect to the Obama Administration and tobacco. The U.S. should not tie its own hands and jeopardize our competitiveness in any agricultural market. I have relayed this message to the USTR on multiple occasions.

**ALISON LUNDERGAN-GRIMES:** Free trade must always be fair trade, in terms of labor standards, as well as with regards to tariffs and other barriers. Trade agreements should always include all agricultural products (including tobacco), ensure access for biotechnology products and eliminate or curtail use of geographic indications.



**3. What are your views on how foods containing GMO crops should be labeled for the domestic market and treated in international trade agreements?**

**ALISON LUNDERGAN-GRIMES:** The treatment of GMO crops in international trade agreements and labeling for domestic consumption should always be based on sound science. Genetic modification achieved through biotech research holds great promise for the production of more food for more people on less land.

**MITCH MCCONNELL:** Globally, the needle is pointing towards GMO labeling requirements. Should the U.S. pursue similar requirements, they should be consistent and not a patchwork of 50 different state laws. Kentucky farmers looking to sell GM goods in both Kentucky and Indiana should not be subject to two different labeling requirements. Also, such standards should not disadvantage GM goods by implying they are less nutritious or safe than non-GM goods, as science does not back this claim.

## **FISCAL POLICY**

**The national debt continues to grow and threatens our nation's economic stability. Farmers must watch their bottom line to remain financially stable, just as the federal government should. Balancing the federal budget and reducing the national debt through spending restraint and reducing the rate of growth rather than increasing the American tax burden will be important to the economic recovery and growth of our country.**

Another item of particular interest to our members and to all of business is Section 179 - The Small Business Expensing Section of the IRS code. In 2013 the maximum deduction was \$500,000 of purchased property reduced dollar for dollar when investments exceeded \$2 million. The current maximum deduction is \$250,000. Farming requires large capital investments and farmers place great value on this tax code provisions that allows them to write off capital expenditures in the year that purchases are made. Kentucky Farm Bureau supports allowing at least \$500,000 of expenses to be deducted under Section 179 and indexed for inflation.

**1. What is your level of concern about the size of our nation's deficit?**

**MITCH MCCONNELL:** With more than \$17 trillion in debt, it is clear that one of the biggest problems America faces is an unsustainable debt due to Washington's spending addiction. This is why in 2011, I was the primary negotiator of the Budget Control Act, which has been touted as the largest spending reduction measure of the last quarter century, and the largest deficit reduction bill since 1981 that does not include a tax hike.

**ALISON LUNDERGAN-GRIMES:** The size of the federal deficit and national debt should concern us all. The deficit poses long-term risks of high interest and stifled growth. In the Senate, I will work with Republicans and Democrats to balance the budget the right way by cutting waste, fraud, and abuse, streamlining government programs, and investing taxpayer dollars smarter.

**2. What measures would you support to reduce deficit spending and our national debt?**

**ALISON LUNDERGAN-GRIMES:** In the Senate, I will work to bring Republicans and Democrats together to go through the budget line by line and eliminate waste, fraud and abuse and cut wasteful programs that don't work. I will also champion streamlining duplicative programs, allowing Medicare to negotiate prescription drug prices, and reform our tax code by ending tax breaks that encourage companies to ship jobs overseas.

**MITCH MCCONNELL:** Again, the Budget Control Act I negotiated represented hard-won progress toward reducing our nation's long-term debt in what has been the only item of true spending cuts enacted during the Obama Administration and it did so without raising taxes. My opponent has yet to name a spending program she would cut.

**3. Do you support the effort to make permanent an increase to \$500,000 for accelerated depreciation on business assets under Section 179?**

**MITCH MCCONNELL:** Yes, I understand the importance of Section 179 to Kentucky farmers and agree that this provision should be made permanent up to \$500,000 to give farmers more certainty surrounding serious purchasing decisions. Agriculture is a capital-intensive industry, and Section 179 should be set at this level so that farmers can more easily grow their businesses.

**ALISON LUNDERGAN-GRIMES:** Yes, I strongly support making permanent a maximum deduction of \$500,000 under Section 179 for accelerated depreciation when investments exceed \$2 million. In addition, the deduction should be indexed for inflation.

## **HEALTH CARE**

Access to affordable health care continues to be a high priority for our members. The cost of health care is a direct out-of-pocket expense for farmers like other small business owners. We support comprehensive affordable health care for all U.S. citizens and believe health care is primarily the responsibility of the individual. We support efforts to improve health care delivery and foster health care competition. We support federal tax policies that encourage individuals to prepare for future health care needs. Patient rights to choose physicians and methods of treatment should be protected.

**What steps would you advocate be taken to provide all Americans with affordable, quality health care?**

**ALISON LUNDERGAN-GRIMES:** The Affordable Care Act is not perfect, but I agree with the Kentucky Farm Bureau that health benefit exchanges should be run by the states, and not the federal government. In the Senate, I will vote to fix the Affordable Care Act and make sure we do more to cut costs, ease the burden on small businesses, and ensure that Kentuckians who like their plan can keep it. I oppose efforts to strip insurance from more than 500,000 Kentuckians who have gotten it for the first time, and also oppose cutting Medicare benefits for our seniors.



**MITCH MCCONNELL:** Unfortunately, the President's health care reform, which my opponent has embraced, has created higher premiums and deductibles and has caused tens of thousands of Kentuckians to receive policy cancellation notices. Moreover, it has lowered quality of care. Obamacare should be repealed and replaced with common sense reforms that actually lower costs and that Americans actually support. These reforms include allowing individuals and businesses to purchase insurance across state lines, permitting small businesses to pool their resources and reforming the medical liability system that is currently driving up the cost of care due to frivolous lawsuits.

## **IMMIGRATION & FARM LABOR**

Farmers routinely face a shortage of workers to perform labor on many aspects of production often placing in jeopardy the planting or harvesting of perishable crops. Often, migrant workers are the only group willing to perform many tasks, but securing legal workers can be a bureaucratic nightmare. The H-2A program is utilized by many Kentucky farmers to secure laborers for tobacco production but it is in dire need of simplification and reform. Domestic laborers simply are not available, or do not want to perform the tasks required with many agricultural jobs.

### **1. What legislative reforms would you support to help farmers secure a willing, legal workforce?**

**MITCH MCCONNELL:** I understand our legal immigration system needs to be more reflective of farmers' needs and I will work to make these changes should Congress take up an immigration reform proposal that also adequately secures our borders. Additionally, I am supportive of increased efforts to teach domestic, non-traditional workers about entering the agricultural workforce. This was evidenced by my support for the 2014 Farm Bill, which authorized additional funding for training opportunities for young and beginning farmers.

**ALISON LUNDERGAN-GRIMES:** The failure of Congress to enact comprehensive immigration reform has saddled Kentucky's farmers with a dysfunctional migrant worker program. In the U.S. Senate, I will work across party lines to pass comprehensive immigration reform to provide our Kentucky farmers with an adequate supply of legal workers.

### **2. Can the H-2A program be reformed to make it easier, and more cost effective, for Kentucky farmers to utilize, or should we develop a new program to provide stability to meet our farm labor needs?**

**ALISON LUNDERGAN-GRIMES:** I support reforming the H-2A program to make it easier and more cost effective for Kentucky farmers to participate and for agricultural workers to have jobs. I am open to considering the development of a new program if it provides greater benefit for Kentucky farmers.

**MITCH MCCONNELL:** I understand farmers' frustrations with the current agricultural legal immigration program—the H-2A program. It is administered by a hostile Department of Labor, is paperwork intensive and is too slow to address seasonal needs. Despite conflicting ideas on other aspects of immigration reform, Congress agrees H-2A needs improvement. I will work to make these changes should Congress take up an immigration

reform proposal that also adequately secures our borders.

### **3. What additional efforts would you support to help farmers be able to secure the necessary labor to produce our country's food, fiber and energy?**

**MITCH MCCONNELL:** Production of food and fiber in the U.S. is critical for our nation. A viable agriculture industry requires a stable supply of labor. With the world's population anticipated to reach 9 billion in the coming decades, Kentucky farmers can continue to feed not only the U.S., but also the world so long as they have the tools necessary to obtain an adequate workforce.

**ALISON LUNDERGAN-GRIMES:** I join the American and Kentucky farm bureaus in supporting U.S. Department of Labor approval of joint contracts among farmers, staggered entry dates for workers within a single contract and streamlined hiring requirements.

## **ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES**

Complying with environmental regulations is something farmers face daily whether it is in their livestock operations or crop production practices involving pesticides or fertilizers. Federal regulations must be based on sound science and not create undue financial burdens on typical farming operations.

Of particular concern is the effort to redefine waters of the United States under the Clean Water Act. Currently the Clean Water Act regulates truly navigable waters and streams with both permanent and seasonal flows, but removing the word 'navigable' from the definition of waters of the U.S. would open the door to the broadest possible interpretation of the law. This could significantly impede common agricultural practices, impose additional unfunded mandates on state and local governments, and limit some uses of private property.

### **1. What steps would you take to assure that all Federal regulations affecting production agriculture are based on sound science and cost benefit analysis?**

**ALISON LUNDERGAN-GRIMES:** Federal regulatory agencies too often arrive at a solution before they are clear about the problem they are trying to fix. As the next U.S. Senator, I will use every tool at my disposal to compel these agencies to employ sound science and proper cost benefit analysis to describe a problem, justify a proposed solution and adhere to the language and authority of the governing environmental law.

**MITCH MCCONNELL:** President Obama's regulations are too often driven by extremist environmental ideologies, and not by sound science and cost benefit analysis. These are the same radical environmentalists who have contributed heavily to my opponent's campaign. During the 2014 Farm Bill conference, the Chairwoman of the Agriculture Committee, Debbie Stabenow, stripped a provision I supported requiring all new rules be based on sound science—and not on unproven, politically convenient information that gives the administration a green light to further regulate farmers.



2. What impact do you see occurring if the term “navigable” is removed from the definition of “waters of the U.S.”? Would you support such legislation or any regulation that would redefine ‘Waters of the U.S.’?

**MITCH MCCONNELL:** Such a regulation would be detrimental to traditional farming practices, countless industries and individuals’ property rights. Recognizing this early on, in 2012, I began cosponsoring bills blocking such a proposal. Unfortunately, Majority Leader Harry Reid, who also backs my opponent, has refused to allow these measures to come to the floor for a vote. Should I become Majority Leader of the Senate, such legislation—as well as others attempting to rein in EPA overreach—would be among the first items I would work to send to the President’s desk.

**ALISON LUNDERGAN-GRIMES:** The proposed EPA rule should be ditched. Removal of the word “navigable” poses serious risk that federal agencies would usurp the authority previously left to state regulators and could extend Clean Water Act provisions to private water resources on farms, placing an unnecessary burden on our farmers. As Senator, I will oppose such legislation or regulations that seek to redefine “Waters of the U.S.”



#### U.S. SENATE CANDIDATES

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Mitch McConnell</b><br/>(R - Louisville)<br/><a href="http://www.teammitch.com">www.teammitch.com</a><br/>B.A. in Political Science<br/>from University of<br/>Louisville with honors;<br/>University of Kentucky<br/>College of Law<br/>FAMILY – Elaine L. Chao<br/>(wife); Elly, Claire, and<br/>Porter (daughters)</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Alison Lundergan Grimes</b><br/>(D - Lexington)<br/><a href="http://www.alisonforkentucky.com">www.alisonforkentucky.com</a><br/>Bachelor of Arts degree in<br/>Political Science from<br/>Rhodes College in Memphis,<br/>Tennessee. Juris Doctor<br/>from American University,<br/>Washington College of Law<br/>in Washington, D.C. – Cum<br/>Laude<br/>FAMILY – Andrew N.<br/>Grimes (Husband)</li></ul> |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>David M. Patterson</b><br/>(Libertarian - Harrodsburg)<br/><a href="http://www.david4senate.com">www.david4senate.com</a></li></ul>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Robert Edward Ransdell</b><br/>(Write-In - Florence)</li></ul>  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Mike Maggard</b><br/>(Write-In - Richmond)</li></ul>  | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Shawna Sterling</b><br/>(Write-In - Sharpsburg)<br/><a href="http://www.kentuckyisnotforsale.com">www.kentuckyisnotforsale.com</a></li></ul>  |

3. What efforts would you recommend to make sure the environment is protected but regulations do not create an undue economic burden relative to the Clean Water Act?

**ALISON LUNDERGAN-GRIMES:** We all want clean water, but the EPA should never exceed its authority and the legislative intent enacted by Congress. Regulations of the Clean Water Act and other environmental laws that are consistent with the legislative language and intent should be appropriately enforced. But congressional oversight must be vigilant. As the next U.S. Senator, I will work to ensure that federal agencies do not overstep their authority and burden farmers with unnecessary and costly rules not mandated by law.

**MITCH MCCONNELL:** Kentucky farmers take pride in their craft and often reside on their land where they also raise their families. As such, Kentucky farmers are some of the best environmental stewards around. As I previously stated, should I become Majority Leader of the Senate, legislation reining in EPA regulatory overreach on farmers, coal and Kentucky small businesses would be among the first measures I would work send to the President’s desk. My opponent, however, twice supported Obama even after his radical environmental, anti-business agenda became clear.

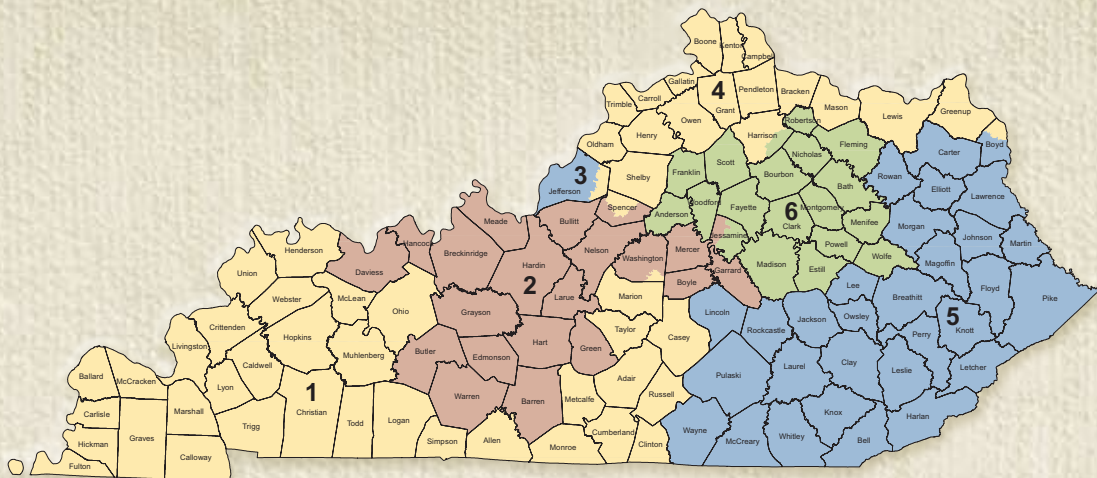
4. What can be done to minimize the impact recently announced Clean Air Act rules will have on agriculture?

**MITCH MCCONNELL:** Again, the short answer is to make me the Majority Leader of the Senate. EPA’s regulations will cause utility prices to skyrocket, as coal provides over 90 percent of Kentucky’s electricity. This will increase prices for fertilizer and other farm inputs. I have introduced numerous bills to halt these regulations. Unfortunately, Majority Leader Reid, who controls the Senate and raises money for my opponent, will not allow votes on any of them. Should I become the leader of the Senate, I will work to send these bills to the President’s desk, and will also use riders in the annual appropriations process to try to defund the President’s anti-coal and anti-Kentucky agenda.

In short, Kentucky farmers need less of the Obama administration, not more, and more clout, not less—all of which will be made possible if I am Majority Leader of the Senate next year.

**ALISON LUNDERGAN-GRIMES:** These new Clean Air Act rules could pose potential undue burdens for our farmers. I stood up to President Obama to oppose the recent EPA rules. In the Senate, I will use every lever of influence to reign in the EPA and push back against overreaching bureaucratic regulations. EPA regulations should never exceed the intent and authority of federal legislation.





# Kentucky Congressional Races

## 1ST DISTRICT

- Ed Whitfield  
(R – Hopkinsville)  
[www.whitfieldforcongress.com](http://www.whitfieldforcongress.com)
- Charles Kendall Hatchett  
(D – Benton)  
[www.hatchettforcongress.net](http://www.hatchettforcongress.net)

## 2ND DISTRICT

- S. Brett Guthrie  
(R – Bowling Green)  
[www.brettguthrie.com](http://www.brettguthrie.com)
- Ron Leach  
(D – Brandenburg)  
[www.ronleach4ky.com](http://www.ronleach4ky.com)

## 3RD DISTRICT

- John A. Yarmuth  
(D – Harrods Creek)  
[www.yarmuthforcongress.com](http://www.yarmuthforcongress.com)
- Michael Macfarlane  
(R – Prospect)  
[www.macfarlane2014.com](http://www.macfarlane2014.com)
- Gregory Peter Puccetti  
(Independent – Louisville)  
<https://sites.google.com/site/puccetti/home>

## 4TH DISTRICT

- Thomas Massie  
(R – Garrison)  
[www.thomasmassie.com](http://www.thomasmassie.com)
- Peter Newberry  
(D – Berry)

## 5TH DISTRICT

- Harold “Hal” Rogers  
(R – Somerset)
- Kenneth S. Stepp  
(D – Manchester)

## 6TH DISTRICT

- Andy Barr  
(R – Lexington)  
[www.andybarrforcongress.com](http://www.andybarrforcongress.com)
- Elisabeth Jensen  
(D – Lexington)  
[www.elisabethforkentucky.com](http://www.elisabethforkentucky.com)

# Kentucky House District Races

## 2ND DISTRICT

- Graves, McCracken (part)
- Richard Heath (R-Mayfield)
  - Jesse Wright (D-Mayfield)

## 3RD DISTRICT

- McCracken (part)
- Gerald Watkins  
(D-Paducah)
  - Randy Bridges (R-Paducah)

## 4TH DISTRICT

- Caldwell, Crittenden, Livingston, Christian (part)
- Lynn Bechler (R-Marion)
  - Jarrod H. Jackson  
(D-Princeton)

## 6TH DISTRICT

- Lyon, Marshall, McCracken (part)
- Will R. Coursey  
(D-Symsonia)
  - Keith Travis (R-Benton)

## 7TH DISTRICT

- Daviess (part), Henderson (part), Union
- Suzanne Miles  
(R-Owensboro)
  - John Warren  
(D-Owensboro)

## 10TH DISTRICT

- Breckinridge, Hancock, Hardin (part)
- Alan Claypool  
(R-Mcdaniels)
  - Dean Schamore  
(D-Hardinsburg)

## 11TH DISTRICT

- Henderson (part), Daviess (part)
- David A. Watkins  
(D-Henderson)
  - Paul A. DeSpain  
(R-Henderson)

## 12TH DISTRICT

- Daviess (part), Hopkins (part), McLean, Webster
- Jim Gooch Jr.  
(D-Providence)
  - Dianne Burns Mackey  
(R-Utica)

## 13TH DISTRICT

- Daviess (part)
- Jim Glenn (D-Owensboro)
  - Alan Braden  
(R-Owensboro)

## 14TH DISTRICT

- Daviess (part), Ohio
- Tommy Thompson  
(D-Owensboro)
  - Marian Turley  
(R-Owensboro)

## 16TH DISTRICT

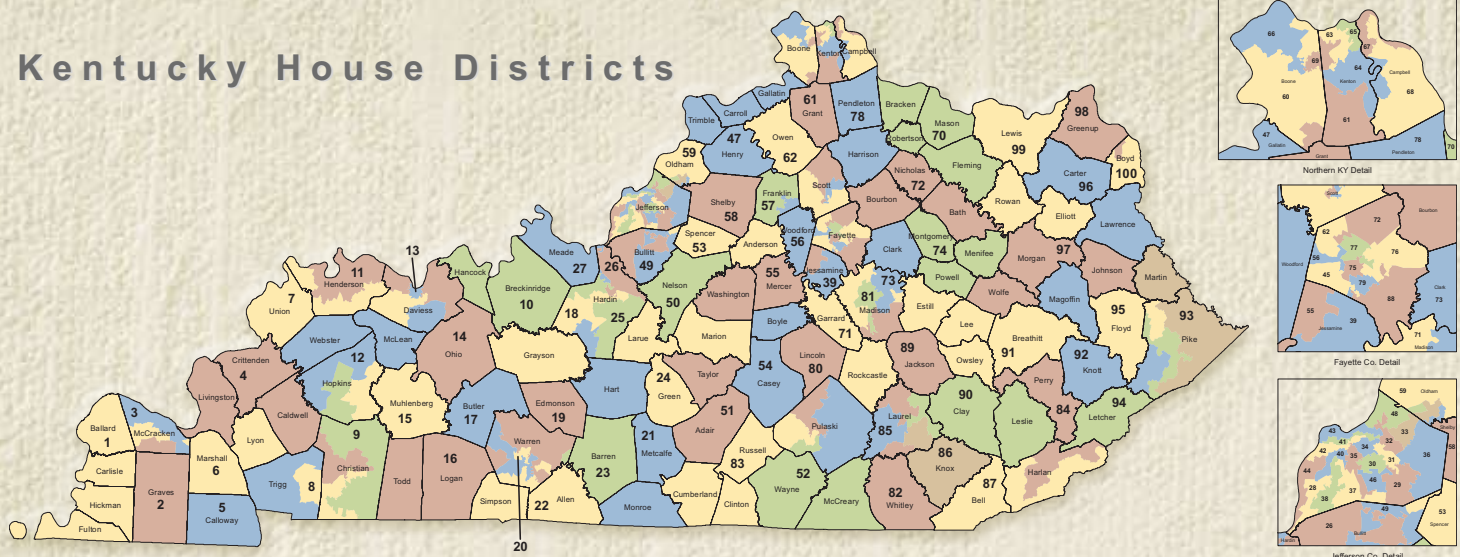
- Logan, Todd, Warren (part)
- Martha Jane King  
(D-Lewisburg)
  - Jason Petrie (R-Elkton)

## 19TH DISTRICT

- Edmonson, Warren (part)
- Michael Lee Meredith  
(R-Brownsville)
  - John Wayne Smith  
(D-Smiths Grove)



# Kentucky House Districts



## 20TH DISTRICT

Warren (part)  
 • Jody Richards (D-Bowling Green)  
 • Jenean M. Hampton (R-Bowling Green)

## 21ST DISTRICT

Hardin (part), Hart, Metcalfe, Monroe  
 • Bart Rowland (R-Tompkinsville)  
 • Joe Choate (D-Munfordville)

## 23RD DISTRICT

Barren, Warren (part)  
 • Johnny W. Bell (D-Glasgow)  
 • Jeff Jobe (R-Glasgow)

## 24TH DISTRICT

Marion, Green, Larue  
 • Terry Mills (D-Lebanon)  
 • J. Alex LaRue (R-Hodgenville)

## 25TH DISTRICT

Hardin (part)  
 • Jimmie Lee (D-Elizabethtown)  
 • Jim DuPlessis (R-Elizabethtown)

## 26TH DISTRICT

Hardin (part), Bullitt (part)  
 • Russell Webber (R-Shepherdsville)  
 • J. Scott Wantland (D-Shepherdsville)

## 27TH DISTRICT

Hardin (part), Meade  
 • Jeff Greer (D-Brandenburg)  
 • Rachelle Frazier (R-Brandenburg)

## 29TH DISTRICT

Jefferson (part)  
 • Kevin D. Bratcher (R-Louisville)  
 • Dave Stengel (D-Louisville)

## 31ST DISTRICT

Jefferson (part)  
 • Steve Riggs (D-Louisville)  
 • Nicholas X. Simon (R-Louisville)

## 32ND DISTRICT

Jefferson (part)  
 • Ashley Miller (D-Louisville)  
 • Phil Moffett (R-Louisville)

## 34TH DISTRICT

Jefferson (part)  
 • Mary Lou Marzian (D-Louisville)  
 • Michael McNair (R-Louisville)

## 35TH DISTRICT

Jefferson (part)  
 • Jim Wayne (D-Louisville)  
 • Carl Nett (R-Louisville)

## 36TH DISTRICT

Jefferson (part), Oldham (part)  
 • Debbie Barber (D-Louisville)  
 • Jerry T. Miller (R-Eastwood)

## 37TH DISTRICT

Jefferson (part)  
 • Jeffery M. Donohue (D-Fairdale)  
 • Mark Wilson (R-Louisville)

## 39TH DISTRICT

Fayette (part), Jessamine (part)  
 • Russ Meyer (D-Nicholasville)  
 • Jonah Mitchell (R-Nicholasville)

## 40TH DISTRICT

Jefferson (part)  
 • Dennis L. Horlander (D-Louisville)  
 • Ronald Seiter (R-Louisville)

## 42ND DISTRICT

Jefferson (part)  
 • Reginald K. Meeks (D-Louisville)  
 • James F. Howland (R-Louisville)

## 43RD DISTRICT

Jefferson (part)  
 • Darryl T. Owens (D-Louisville)  
 • Corley Everett (R-Louisville)

## 46TH DISTRICT

Jefferson (part)  
 • Larry Clark (D-Louisville)  
 • David Rainey (R-Louisville)

## 48TH DISTRICT

Jefferson (part), Oldham (part)  
 • Bob M. DeWeese (R-Louisville)  
 • Gretchen Hunt (D-Louisville)

## 49TH DISTRICT

Bullitt (part)  
 • Linda Howlett Belcher (D-Shepherdsville)  
 • Michael J. Nemes (R-Shepherdsville)

## 50TH DISTRICT

Nelson  
 • David Floyd (R-Bardstown)  
 • Audrey Haydon (D-Bardstown)

## 53RD DISTRICT

Anderson, Bullitt (part), Spencer  
 • Kent Stevens (D-Lawrenceburg)  
 • James A. Tipton (R-Taylorsville)

## 55TH DISTRICT

Mercer, Washington, Jessamine (part)  
 • Kim King (R-Harrodsburg)  
 • Jacqueline Coleman (D-Nicholasville)

## 56TH DISTRICT

Fayette (part), Franklin (part), Woodford  
 • James Kay (D-Versailles)  
 • Ryan Schwartz (R-Versailles)



**59TH DISTRICT**

Oldham (part)

- David W. Osborne (R-Prospect)
- James Victor Ewen (D-Goshen)

**62ND DISTRICT**

Fayette (part), Scott (part), Owen

- Ryan F. Quarles (R-Georgetown)
- Chuck Tackett (D-Georgetown)

**68TH DISTRICT**

Campbell (part)

- Joseph M. Fischer (R-Fort Thomas)
- Shae Hornback (D-Cold Springs)

**72ND DISTRICT**

Bath, Bourbon, Fayette (part), Nicholas

- Sannie Overly (D-Paris)
- Dwaine Curran (R-Sharpsburg)

**73RD DISTRICT**

Clark, Madison (part)

- Donna Mayfield (R-Winchester)
- Bonnie R. Hummel (D-Winchester)

**74TH DISTRICT**

Montgomery, Powell, Menifee

- Richard Henderson (D-Mt. Sterling)
- David Hale (R-Wellington)

**76TH DISTRICT**

Fayette (part)

- Ruth Ann Palumbo (D-Lexington)
- Richard Marrs (R-Lexington)

**78TH DISTRICT**

Harrison, Pendleton, Scott (part)

- Thomas M. McKee (D-Cynthiana)
- Mark Hart (R-Falmouth)

**79TH DISTRICT**

Fayette (part)

- Susan Westrom (D-Lexington)
- Ken Kearns II (R-Lexington)

**81ST DISTRICT**

Madison (part)

- Rita H. Smart (D-Richmond)
- C. Wesley Morgan (R-Richmond)

**88TH DISTRICT**

Fayette (part)

- Robert J. Benvenuti III (R-Lexington)
- Creasa E. Reed (D-Lexington)

**89TH DISTRICT**

Jackson, Laurel (part), Madison (part)

- Marie L. Rader (R-McKee)
- Joey Jayson Taylor II (D-East Bernstadt)

**90TH DISTRICT**

Clay, Leslie, Laurel (part)

- Tim Couch (R-Hyden)
- Darrell D. Mills (D-Manchester)

**91ST DISTRICT**

Breathitt, Estill, Lee, Madison (part), Owsley

- Gary "Toby" Herald (R-Beattyville)
- Cluster Howard (D-Jackson)

**96TH DISTRICT**

Carter, Lawrence

- Jill York (R-Grayson)
- Barry Webb (D-Webbville)

**97TH DISTRICT**

Johnson, Morgan, Wolfe

- Hubert Collins (D-Wittensville)
- Bobby W. McCool (R-Van Lear)



# Kentucky Senate District Races

**2ND DISTRICT**

Ballard, Marshall, McCracken, Carlisle

- Denny Carroll (R-Paducah)
- Jeff G. Parker (D-Paducah)

**6TH DISTRICT**

Hopkins, Muhlenberg, Ohio, Butler

- William M. Cox Jr. (D-Madisonville)
- C.B. Embry Jr. (R-Morgantown)

**12TH DISTRICT**

Fayette (part)

- Alice Forgy Kerr (R-Lexington)
- Kathy Warnecke Ryan (D-Lexington)

**18TH DISTRICT**

Carter, Greenup, Boyd

- Robin Webb (D-Grayson)
- Tony Downey (R-Ashland)

**24TH DISTRICT**

Campbell, Pendleton, Bracken

- Wil Schroder (R-Wilder)
- Jason Michael Steffen (D-Southgate)

**28TH DISTRICT**

Clark, Montgomery, Fayette (part)

- R.J. Palmer II (D-Winchester)
- Ralph Alvarado (R-Winchester)

**30TH DISTRICT**

Bell, Leslie, Perry, Breathitt, Johnson, Magoffin

- Brandon D. Smith (R-Hazard)
- Jordan Bowling Palmer (D-Hazard)

**34TH DISTRICT**

Madison, Rockcastle, Fayette (part)

- Jared K. Carpenter (R-Berea)
- Michael S. Cope (D-Richmond)

**36TH DISTRICT**

Jefferson (part)

- Julie Raque Adams (R-Louisville)
- Siddique Malik (D-Louisville)



# Trunnell's Market offers bounty of fun



**T**he fall festival season is here, with many of Kentucky's farm markets buzzing with special events. It's a fun-filled part of a busy sales season when shoppers seek pumpkins, mums and other fall favorites.

One of the premier spots is Trunnell's Farm Market, just south of Owensboro on US 431. Kevin and Julie Trunnell and other family members have something cooking every weekend in

Trunnell's Farm Market near Owensboro has a festival every weekend in October.

October, beginning with Octoberfest on October 4-5. This unique festival celebrates the fall season and farming in general. Live Music and Kentucky Proud Foods Sampling are on the agenda.

"The Great Pumpkin Fest" is set for October 11-12, followed by "A-maizeing Maze Fest" on the 18th and 19th and "Fall Squash N-Pumpkin Gobble Festival" on the 25th and 26th. Each festival features live music and plenty of children's activities; most held in the farm's popular "Family Fun-Acre" which has five different mazes, a tunnel slide, pedal tractors and more. Trunnell's Festival agendas also includes things like hayrides to the pumpkin patch, an animal barnyard, pumpkin painting, a costume parade, glow-in-the-dark pumpkin hunt, bonfires, weenie roasts, flashlight night in the corn maze and more.

Check Trunnell's web site, [trunnellsfarmmarket.com](http://trunnellsfarmmarket.com), or call (877) 733-2202 for the complete schedule of activities.

A member of KFB's Certified Roadside Farm Markets program, Trunnell's also has plenty of mums, pumpkins and fresh produce (it is locally famous for its sweet corn).

**A list of KFB's certified farm markets is on the facing page.**





# Stop and Buy Local

## KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU'S 2014 CERTIFIED ROADSIDE FARM MARKETS

Market hours are seasonal. Please contact the markets for opening date & hours of operation.

### WEST

#### **Blue Boy Lawn, Landscape, & Garden**

Madisonville · (270) 821-7476

#### **Broadbent B & B Foods**

Kuttawa · (800) 841-2202

#### **Brumfield Farm Market**

Madisonville · (270) 821-2721

#### **Cates Farm**

Henderson · (270) 823-6150

#### **Cayce's Pumpkin Patch**

Princeton · (270) 365-2132

#### **Country Fresh Meats**

Sturgis · (270) 333-0280

#### **Dogwood Valley Trading Post**

Clay · (270) 664-9892

#### **Father's Country Hams**

Bremen · (270) 525-3333

#### **Happy Hollow Farms**

Calhoun · (270) 499-3774

#### **Jim David Meats**

Uniontown · (270) 822-4866

#### **Lola Nursery & Greenhouse**

Salem · (270) 704-1557

#### **Metcalfe Landscaping**

Madisonville · (270) 821-0350

#### **Reid's Orchard**

Owensboro · (270) 685-2444

#### **The Country Barn**

Elkton · (270) 885-4843

#### **Trunnell's Farm Market**

Utica · (270) 733-2222

#### **Zook's Produce**

Herndon · no phone

### SOUTH CENTRAL

#### **Baldwin Farms**

Richmond · (859) 582-5785

#### **Berea College Farm & Garden**

Berea · (859) 985-3685

#### **Burton's Nursery & Garden Center**

Campbellsville · (270) 789-1239

#### **Chaney's Dairy Barn**

Bowling Green · (270) 843-5567

#### **Chateau du Vieux Corbeau Winery**

Danville · (859) 236-1775

#### **Crawford Farms**

Elizabethtown · (615) 574-8470

#### **Cravens Greenhouse**

Albany · (606) 387-8583

#### **D&F Farms**

Somerset · (606) 382-5214

#### **Davis Family Farm**

Greensburg · (270) 565-1336

#### **Daynabrook Greenhouse & Farm**

Harrodsburg · (859) 734-7863

#### **Dennison's Roadside Market**

Horse Cave · (270) 786-1663

#### **Devine's Farm & Corn Maze**

Harrodsburg · (859) 613-3489

#### **Double Hart Farm**

Corbin · (606) 523-0465

#### **Family Fields i Market**

Springfield · (859) 481-1516

#### **Frenchvalley Farms**

Jamestown · (270) 566-1757

#### **Habegger's Amish Market**

Scottsville · (270) 618-5676

#### **Hail's Farm**

Somerset · (606) 875-2972

#### **Halcomb's Knob Farm Market**

Paint Lick · (859) 925-9936

#### **Haney's Appledale Farm**

Nancy · (606) 636-6148

#### **Heavenly Haven Farm**

Columbia · (270) 465-9597

#### **Hinton's Orchard & Farm Market**

Hodgenville · (270) 325-3854

#### **Jackson's Orchard & Nursery**

Bowling Green · (270) 781-5303

#### **Just Piddlin Farm**

Woodburn · (270) 542-6769

#### **Kenny's Farmhouse Cheese**

Austin · (270) 434-4124

#### **Mammoth Cave Transplants**

Brownsville · (270) 597-2533

#### **Marksbury Farm Market**

Lancaster · (859) 754-4224

#### **McQuerry's Herbs-N-Heirlooms**

Paint Lick · (859) 792-8268

#### **McKinney Farm**

Russellville · (270) 726-6284

#### **MeadowBrook Orchards & Farm**

Elk Horn · (606) 787-4690

#### **Owens Garden Center**

Somerset · (606) 379-5488

#### **Poore's Nursery & Farm**

Russellville · (270) 542-4828

#### **Roberts Family Farm**

Guston · (270) 422-2361

#### **Serano Alpacas & Yarns**

Springfield · (208) 699-8570

#### **Serenity Farm Alpacas**

Raywick · (270) 692-8743

#### **Sinking Valley Vineyard & Winery**

Somerset · (606) 274-0223

#### **St. Catharine Farm**

Springfield · (859) 336-0444

#### **The Pumpkin Wagon**

Elizabethtown · (270) 734-2156

#### **Triple D Greenhouse & Produce**

Greensburg · (270) 932-7610

#### **Todd's Greenhouse & Florist**

Eubank · (606) 379-1375

#### **VanMeter Family Farm**

Clarkson · (270) 242-9056

#### **Williams Country Market**

Gravel Switch · (270) 692-2493

### NORTH CENTRAL

#### **Alpine Dairy/Country Pumpkins**

Dry Ridge · (859) 428-2445

#### **Amerson Farm**

Georgetown · (502) 863-3799

#### **Antioch Daylily Garden**

Lexington · (859) 806-5458

#### **Ayres Family Orchard**

Owenton · (502) 484-5236

#### **Beech Springs Farm Market**

Winchester · (859) 749-2776

#### **Bi-Water Farm & Greenhouse**

Georgetown · (502) 863-3676

#### **Blue Ribbon Market**

Union · (859) 393-4357

#### **Boone Gardiner Garden Center**

Crestwood · (502) 243-3832

#### **Boyd Orchards**

Versailles · (859) 873-3097

#### **Bray Fruit**

Bedford · (502) 255-7296

#### **Bray Orchard & Roadside Market**

Bedford · (502) 255-3607

#### **Callis Orchard**

Bedford · (502) 255-3316

#### **Capture Your Heart Alpacas**

Bloomfield · (502) 510-5185

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# Advisory Committee Meetings ...

**KFB**'s advisory committees have been meeting in recent weeks to assess their respective areas of interest and consider policy recommendations. These meetings have been held at sites throughout the state, as well as at KFB's office in Louisville.

The Horticulture and Roadside Markets Committees convened at Trunnell's Farm Market just south of Owensboro. On a sweltering late August day, these groups assembled under the shade of a huge Mulberry tree adjacent to the market building off busy U.S. 431. Both committees are chaired by KFB Director Russell Poore, who operates a farm market in Logan County.

KFB's Executive Committee of President Mark Haney and Vice Presidents Eddie Melton and Fritz Giesecke attended the meetings before moving on to the annual meeting of Daviess County FB, which was held at Reid's Orchard, another one of KFB's Certified Roadside Farm Markets.

As is the custom for such meetings, the attendees were asked to introduce themselves to the group and add some remarks about their operation or position. The extremes of Mother Nature were reinforced when Committee Vice-Chairman David Chappell said his Owen County farm had received over five inches of rain in recent days, prompting Jamie Potts of Calloway County to reply "we haven't had five inches since May."

The quote of the day came from Patsy Poore, Russell's wife. After giving her name, she had a quip that resonates with farm market operators, saying, "and I hope to go to the bank every week."

Reports were given by representatives from the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, Farm Service Agency, UK's Horticulture Department, Kentucky Horticulture Society, Kentucky Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association, Kentucky Horticulture Council and KFB.

Robert Stone, a Bourbon County pro-



Committee Chairman Russell Poore greets the Horticulture Committee after it assembled under a mulberry tree at Trunnell's Farm Market in Daviess County.

## Horticulture group calls for expanding water resources

ducer who is President of the Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association, initiated a lengthy discussion about the possibility of a producers' checkoff to fund various programs, and particularly to offset cuts in the extension service for horticulture agents and projects.

Extension Agents Tom Miller of Ballard County and Glen Roberts of Wayne County acknowledged a need for more horticulture specialists in rural counties where the industry is expanding. Department Chairman Dr. Robert Hountz affirmed budget cuts and a decline in positions within the college.

In response to a question, Haney told the group that KFB does not endorse particular checkoffs, but has policy supporting the process for pursuing checkoff programs. "We leave it to the producers to decide what they want," he said.

Kentucky's checkoff law, which KFB strongly supported when formulated in the state legislature, calls for a producer

referendum to decide the issue and a rebate program for those who don't want to contribute.

The committee decided not to make any recommendations. "There's a lot of things to be worked out before we can have a (checkoff) proposal," Poore said.

As the policy review continued, Haney informed the group that the organization's leadership is looking at options for enhancing the availability of water supplies in areas of need throughout the state.

"The most limiting factor we have in Kentucky agriculture is the availability of water," he said. "We have an abundance of water in the winter and spring and it moves through our river system and is gone. We need to capture more water and we need to work with other organizations and agencies to see what we can do."

Following discussion the committee approved a policy recommendation stating "we support initiatives to preserve



and improve access to water for Kentucky agriculture producers.”

After a break for lunch the Roadside Markets committee convened, with program coordinator Fran McCall giving reports on the activities of the KFB program, which had 106 members this year. The group formed a subcommittee to make a recommendation for next summer’s tour. The committee also plans to explore potential regional advertising programs.

## Reports from other advisory committees:

**EDUCATION:** Chaired by KFB Director Terry Gilbert of Boyle County, this group met at KFB’s office in Louisville. Much of the meeting involved a presentation on the “Jobs for America’s Graduates” (JAG) program. Lawrence Caruso, a retired General Electric Human Resources Department Executive, gave the presentation as the Executive Director of the Kentucky JAG program. The organization is hoping to form a partnership with KFB to help alleviate a severe shortage of funding.

Founded in Delaware 35 years ago and initiated in Kentucky in 1993, JAG is a dropout prevention and job skills program for high-risk, disadvantaged young adults. On a national level JAG currently is in 900 schools in 31 states, serving approximately 47,000 youth. But in Kentucky, state funding cuts and a decline in sponsors has limited the program to just eight schools. The goal of the non-profit organization overseeing JAG in Kentucky is to expand to at least 50 schools by the 2016-17 school year, Caruso said.

“We need a sustainable funding source,” he told the group. “In Kentucky, we have not had the funds to do it right.”

Currently school systems are paying most of the cost for their JAG programs. Kentucky JAG is hoping to attract funding from state sources, corporations, organizations like KFB and local groups, including county Farm Bureaus, Caruso said.

Mrs. Gilbert said she was impressed with the JAG program. Committee member Ryan Williams, a technical education teacher in Taylor County, noted the success of a similar program in the Taylor County system.

Following the presentation, ex-officio members of the committee gave reports on their respective agencies. Brandon Davis, the committee vice-chairman, gave a report on some activities within the Career and Technical Education branch of the Kentucky Department of Education. He said 36 career and technical education teachers have been hired as a result of a funding increase approved in this year’s legislative session. After speaking about a new business partnering program for apprenticeships and the state accountability system, Davis told the group that a school in Jefferson County is pursuing an agriculture program. Currently, Seneca High School has the



KFB Director Danny Wilkinson chaired the swine committee meeting held at the KPPA office in Elizabethtown.

county’s lone ag program, Davis noted.

In reporting on FFA activities, Davis said 1,776 attended summer camp this year with around 2,500 at the state convention.

Jordan Spalding of KDA gave an overview of the department’s mobile science activity center.

Turning to policy, the committee, in response to the JAG presentation, approved a proposed resolution stating: “We support programs that reduce barriers to success for students and prepare them for college and career readiness.”

On the national level, the committee recommends policy expressing support for programs that entice schools to buy local farm products.

**SWINE:** This meeting was held at the Kentucky Pork Producers Association office in Elizabethtown. The first report came from Warren Beeler of KDA. He spoke about the department’s work with local foods initiatives. He gave the current production status at the Swift and Purnell processing facilities and then touched on the success of junior livestock

shows. Beeler also gave an update on the Champion Pet Foods plant under construction in Auburn. “It’s a big deal,” he said while noting the impact on animal agriculture in the state. He concluded with a report on a manure management project on a Daviess County swine farm.

State Veterinarian Dr. Robert Stout gave updates on the Livestock Care Standards Commission and Porcine Epidemic Diarrhea (PED), which he said had been found on several Kentucky premises. Dr. Stout recommended that the committee forward a resolution expressing support for “natural inoculation” as a means for containing PED. Later during the policy review session, the committee adopted language stating “we support the use of tissue and/or fecal sources for natural inoculation against imported diseases in which there are not options.”

Next report came from Bonnie Jolly, KPPA’s Executive Director. She touched on market conditions, the success of the 4-H Country Ham curing program and the organization’s recent visit with members of Congress in Washington D.C. KPPA President Bill Cochran said the trip was beneficial and that

much of the discussions centered on the controversial EPA proposal to expand its regulatory reach under the Clean Water Act. Committee member Maurice Heard also said the trip was beneficial.

Dr. Richard Coffey of UK’s Department of Animal and Food Sciences spoke about PED and various functions of the college, including producer training. He said UK’s animal production specialists are fielding more and more contacts from “small scale niche” producers. UK this year has 680 students in Animal and Food Sciences, he added.

Dr. Debbie Reed gave a report on the Breathitt Veterinary Center, where she is interim director. She spoke about a forthcoming groundbreaking for a new facility.

KFB’s Joe Cain then gave a national issues report.

In the policy discussion, the committee adopted the aforementioned PED language plus a statement opposing a mandatory Country Of Origin Labeling (COOL) program.

KFB Director Danny Wilkinson of Adair County is chairman of the Swine Advisory Committee.



By Ed McQueen

## Broiler production rising as feed costs drop

In the latest outlook report, USDA raised the U.S. broiler meat production forecast for second-half 2014 by 50 million pounds. This increase brings the estimate for the second half of 2014 to 19.6 billion pounds, an increase of 1.7 percent from the same period in 2013. The number of chicks being placed for growout and average slaughter weights have been increasing compared with the same period in 2013.

The outlook for the broiler industry in general is influenced by the prospects of lower corn and soybean meal prices this fall and continuing into 2015. With lower grain prices and a forecast for continued gains in the domestic economy, the estimate for 2015 broiler production was increased to 39.5 billion pounds, 2.7 percent higher than in 2014. Increased production is attributed to expansion of average liveweight at slaughter and higher average meat yields per bird. In July, the average liveweight was 5.95 pounds.

Producers have been placing about one percent more chicks than a year ago. Egg sets during September have jumped to 3-4 percent above this time last year.

## Ag trade outlook foresees records

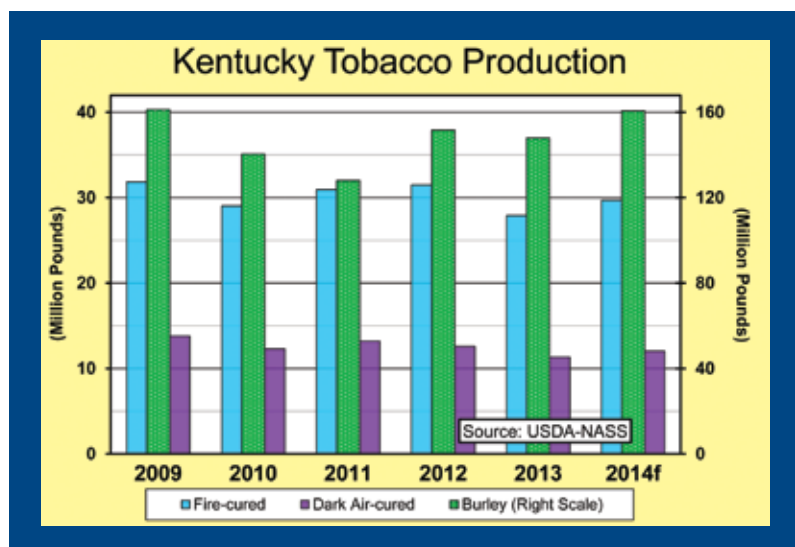
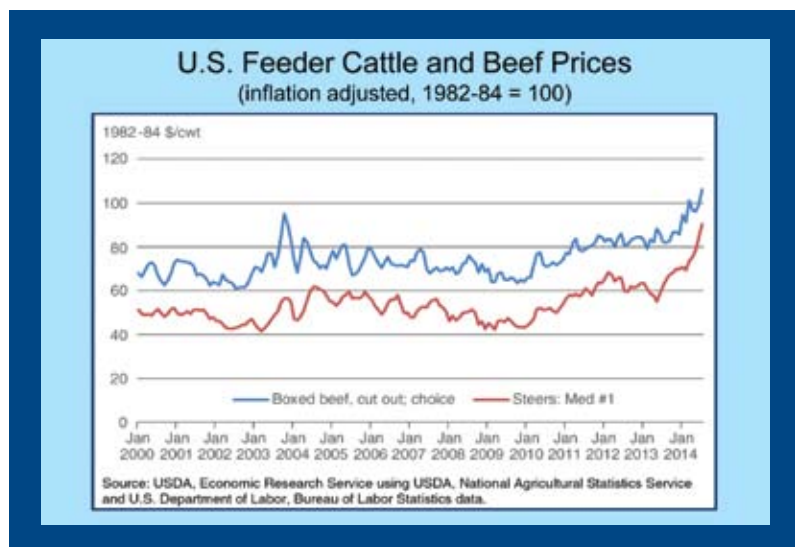
U.S. agricultural imports are forecast at a record \$117 billion in fiscal 2015, \$7.5 billion higher than in fiscal 2014. Increases in import value are expected for most products in 2015, with the largest gains in horticultural products, sugar and tropical products, and livestock products. Imported horticultural products are projected at \$51.4 billion, up from \$47.4 billion in 2014. Fiscal 2015 agricultural exports are projected at \$144.5 billion, down \$8 billion from the record large \$152.5 billion forecast for fiscal 2014. Oilseeds and products are down \$5.1 billion to \$29.7 billion as a result of lower expected soybean and meal prices. Grain and feed exports are down \$4.9 billion to \$31.1 billion on both lower export volumes for corn and wheat and lower prices. Exports of livestock, poultry, and dairy products are down \$500 million to \$32.9 billion even though beef exports are forecast at a record \$6.2 billion. In contrast, horticultural exports are forecast up \$2.9 billion to a record \$37.0 billion, and, if realized, will be the first time exports of horticultural products are greater than exports of grain and feed products. China is our largest export customer at \$25.0 billion for 2015, a \$3.0 billion drop from this year.

The U.S. agricultural trade surplus is expected to fall by \$15.5 billion in fiscal 2015, to \$27.5 billion. This would be the smallest surplus since 2009's \$22.9 billion.

## Grain storage shortfall largest since 2010

Grain production and grain stocks this harvest season are expected to exceed permanent grain storage capacity by an estimated 694 million bushels (about 3.5 percent of the expected U.S. record harvest) in seven states, which include, in decreasing order of storage capacity: South Dakota, Indiana, Missouri, Illinois, Ohio, Michigan, and Kentucky. According to USDA, this quantity is the equivalent of 173,500 jumbo rail cars, 13,219 barges, 881 15-barge tows, or 762,600 truckloads.

Some of the impact could be mitigated by temporary storage; under special circumstances with unusually large crops, USDA sometimes allows emergency and temporary storage of grain, with the storing entity continuing to be financially responsible for the quantity and quality of the grain. These levels of storage capacity shortage are higher than any year since 2010, which had an 805 million bushel shortfall in permanent storage capacity distributed throughout the top14 grain-producing States.





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# New Breathitt Vet Center has groundbreaking

**A** groundbreaking took place last month for a new Breathitt Veterinary Center in Hopkinsville. The project was a KFB priority issue for several years prior to the General Assembly authorizing funding during this year's legislative session.

KFB President Mark Haney and Executive Committee colleagues Fritz Giesecke and David S. Beck attended the ceremony at the new site south of Hopkinsville. Scheduled for opening in 2016, the new facility will encompass 53,000 square feet and will feature state-of-the-art classrooms and technology. Functional lab space will be doubled in the new building.

The current facility, built in the 1960s, remains open on Murray State University's Hopkinsville campus. The BVC receives approximately 23,000 lab-

oratory submissions per year and performs more than 200,000 tests. It is certified by the Center for Disease Control to test for "high impact" diseases of concern to public health. The lab has been especially important to Kentucky's sizeable poultry industry.

Governor Steve Beshear attended the groundbreaking, noting the new center's importance to animal agriculture in the western part of the state. The new facili-

ty, he said, "is absolutely essential."

Project Director Dr. Wade Northington, who retired as the BVC director, said the new facility also will allow for expanding public services into areas such as water quality and food safety.

The center was named for former Governor Ned Breathitt. His daughter, Linda Breathitt, spoke at the ceremony. She is chair of the Kentucky Public Service Commission.

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# Kids and caution



## Rowan County FB involved with safety day event for 4th-graders



A key part of last month's National Farm Safety and Health Week was a series of 'safety day' events throughout the state promoted by the Progressive Agriculture Foundation. Several county Farm Bureaus were involved in these local "Progressive Agriculture Safety Days," including Rowan County FB, which was among the sponsors of one at Morehead State University's farm.

More than 240 fourth-graders from nine classes in the Rowan County public school system participated in the fifth annual event which ran the course of a normal school day.

"The kids just love this," said Catherine Rogers, Public Relations Director for the Rowan County school system.



Coordinator Dennis Perry, from the Maysville Technical and Community College, said watching the students' reaction to what they see at the farm makes the organizing work well worth the effort. "Many of these students have no connection to a farm or agriculture," he explained.

The agenda began with a tractor safety demonstration in which "Bob" the dummy was the victim of a mock accident because his carelessness got him caught in a PTO shaft. Farm Manager Joe Fraley presided over the demonstration and also had the students' attention with several stories about farm accidents he was familiar with.

From there the nine classes rotated among safety "stations" covering areas such as ATVs, guns, horses, reptiles, dogs, bicycles, weather and lawnmowers. Members of the Rowan County FFA served as tour guides.

Another feature was an electrical safety demonstration conducted by employees from Fleming-Mason RECC. In this popular display, the specialists use a portable power line to show how carelessness can get you burned. As part of the demonstration about the potential dangers, a hot dog touched to the line is quickly toasted black.

Perfectly grilled hot dogs were the feature of lunch sponsored by Rowan County FB. Before departing, the youngsters were given "goodie bags."



Top left, students got a close look at mock accident victim "Bob," who was caught in a PTO shaft.

Far left, Rowan County FB Board Member Lorinna Blevins gave the students instructions for the break-out sessions. She helped organize the event.

Top right, more than 240 fourth-graders from Rowan County public schools were on hand for a safety day at Morehead State's farm. Farm manager Joe Fraley is welcoming the group in this photo.

Middle right, an equine safety station was part of the agenda.

Right, State Troopers handled the ATV safety sessions for the fourth-graders.





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