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KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU NEWS

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Our policy development process for 2014 is in high gear with county Farm Bureaus drafting proposals and our advisory committees forwarding their recommendations. This grassroots system has served us well over the years; it's why Kentucky Farm Bureau has played a key role in legislative efforts that have helped shape our state's agriculture industry. It's also why a columnist for a major newspaper recently referred to us as "Kentucky's most influential lobbying group."



That statement was made in reference as to why the candidates in the U.S. Senate race agreed to participate in our "Measure the Candidate" meeting last month. That marked the first time the nominees appeared jointly in a forum to discuss issues. The candidates in the last gubernatorial election did the same by meeting with our Board of Directors to give their positions on issues.

On the morning after the "Measure the Candidate" meeting, our annual Kentucky State Fair Ham Breakfast was yet another tribute to our high standing in the public policy arena. There, as always, a packed audience included a virtual who's who of Kentucky political leaders and state officials. Once again, the Ham Breakfast was a huge success, raising money for charity and providing an occasion for fellowship, networking and good old fashion politicking.

While having the honor of presiding over that event, I was heartened by its enormity and significance. Surrounding me at the podium were the governor, the U.S. Senate Republican Leader, our Agriculture Commissioner, the Mayor of Louisville and other dignitaries. Out in the audience was a large number of business, education and political leaders. And there was a small army of media representatives scattered throughout the cavernous hall.

It's gratifying how this and other Farm Bureau successes are made possible by what we have accomplished as a grassroots advocacy organization. Working relationships with political leaders, high-profile events like the Ham Breakfast and many other achievements are the fruit of our labor on the local level.

**Mark Haney**

President

Kentucky Farm Bureau



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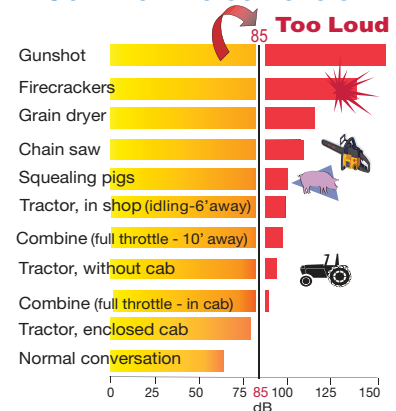
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### Common Noise Levels



A "decibel" is the unit to measure the loudness of sound. Decibel levels for each item shown in the graph may vary.

\*Professional service fees may apply

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<sup>1</sup>Callahan, R. (2013, September 29). One-third of farmers suffer from hearing loss. *The Denver Post*. Retrieved from [http://www.denverpost.com/nationworld/ci\\_24198519/one-third-farmers-suffer-from-hearing-loss](http://www.denverpost.com/nationworld/ci_24198519/one-third-farmers-suffer-from-hearing-loss)



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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## comment

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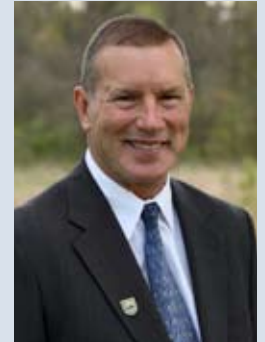
I grew up an Illinois farm boy who loved hunting and fishing. Still do. Those passions lured me to become a fishing guide in Wisconsin, and later study wildlife management at Eastern Kentucky University.

I made a career working with issues facing farmers and landowners. Over 20 years were spent here in Kentucky. I retired from the U.S.D.A. Natural Resources Conservation Service after 30 years – a career that began at the farm level and culminated with a Washington D.C. executive post. Now, as your Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR), I harbor the unique perspective of a lifetime professional acutely familiar with farming issues and a wildlife biologist passionate about hunting and fishing,

Farmers and ranchers across our great nation are our country's greatest land stewards. Hunters and anglers are greatly appreciative of agriculture's land stewardship ethic. Hunters and anglers also support fisheries and wildlife management through their purchases of licenses and permits. Farmers are supportive as well. Over 90 percent of Kentucky land is privately owned, and that's precisely where wildlife lives. About 98 percent of sportsmen and sportswomen hunt on private land. In fact, hunting is the primary tool wildlife professionals use to manage wildlife populations. It's a natural symbiosis. We need each other.

As Commissioner of KDFWR, and a Farm Bureau member, we are actively reaching out to our agriculture community. We just completed attending all of the Farm Bureau's District meetings. We were able to listen to the farming community's concerns and gained a lot of insight on when and how KDFWR can be a better partner. This is only the start as I want to continue the active outreach to Kentucky agriculture.

I respect and value our farmers, and I thank you for all that you do for Kentucky's wildlife. We can help each other, and I am committed to try.



**Gregory K. Johnson**  
Commissioner KDFWR



# KFB Day at



A packed crowd of more than 1,600 was on hand for KFB's 51st annual Country Ham Breakfast at the State Fair. It became a record-breaking event as Republic Bank and Trust Company and Hermitage Farms/Bridgeman Foods settled a spirited bidding competition by agreeing to split a \$2 million bid for the 15.8-pound ham from Broadbent B&B Foods.

The previous record was a \$1.6 million joint bid in 2010. Republic Bank was involved in that, too. Over the years there have been 28 different winning bidders.

KFB now has helped raise more than \$8.9 million for local charities, educational institutions and non-profit organizations through the auction's history. All money raised through the auction is donated directly to the charity of the winning bidder's choice.

Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer, Governor Steve Beshear, U.S.

The official photograph for the ham auction included (bottom row from left) Ryan Bridgeman of Bridgeman Foods, Steve Wilson of Hermitage Farms, Miss Kentucky Ramsey Carpenter of Ohio County, Steve Trager of Republic Bank, Governor Steve Beshear and KFB President Mark Haney. Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer is at left on the second row and is joined by representatives from Broadbent B&B Foods, KFB and Republic Bank.

Senator Mitch McConnell and Agriculture Commissioner James Comer were the guest speakers. Kentucky Congressmen Ed Whitfield, Thomas Massie, and Andy Barr also were on hand along with Lieutenant Governor Jerry Abramson, Secretary of State Alison Lundergan Grimes, Treasurer Todd Hollenbach, Auditor Adam Edelen, around 25 state legislators plus University

# State Fair



Miss Kentucky 2014, Ramsey Carpenter, showcased the Kentucky State Fair's grand champion ham to bidders during the 51st annual Kentucky Farm Bureau Country Ham Breakfast and Auction.



Beginning fourth from left, KFB's Fritz Giesecke, Brad Smith, Eddie Melton, Mark Haney, Susan Tanner and David S. Beck participated in a ribbon cutting for a new 4-H "Cloverville" exhibit. KFB provided financial support for the project.



The Lindsey Family, from Green County, won the gospel quartet contest and performed at the picnic. From left are Alan, Caleb, Rebekah and Naomi.



Clay County was selected winner of the Pride of the Counties award for best exhibit. Here celebrating with the plaque are (left to right) County Judge-Executive Joe Asher, Pam Asher, Milli Gregory, Margy Miller, Manchester Mayor George Saylor, Patricia Grubb and Lowell Grubb.

of Kentucky President Eli Capilouto and University of Louisville President James Ramsey. (Attorney General Jack Conway, who usually attends, was in Washington D.C. on state business and asked KFB President Mark Haney to express his regrets)

KFB also was honored by the presence of former Governors Martha Layne Collins and Paul Patton.

Other highlights of KFB Day at the Fair were the gospel quartet contest, Pride of the Counties award ceremony and the luncheon in the South Wing. Also, KFB Insurance Company was among a group that purchased the grand champion steer at the 4-H and FFA Sale of Champions.



# Senate candidates clash in “Measure the Candidate”



Top left, KFB President Mark Haney presided over the forum with Secretary of State Grimes and Senator McConnell.

Below left, KFB Executive Vice President David S. Beck handled a coin toss to determine the speaking order.



Senator Mitch McConnell and his Democrat opponent, Secretary of State Alison Lundergan Grimes, met with KFB's Board of Directors for the traditional "Measure the Candidate" forum. The KFB leaders – along with a large media contingent drawn by the candidates'

first joint appearance at a campaign forum – not only learned about positions on issues, but they also discovered how hot this campaign promises to be.

Secretary Grimes was on the attack early and often during the 90-minute meeting. In her opening statement she immediately criticized McConnell for

not getting a farm bill enacted in 2013 and for repeated absences from Senate Agriculture Committee meetings. "Mitch McConnell can no longer deliver," she said.

McConnell countered by sporadically linking Secretary Grimes to President Obama and Senate Democrat Leader Harry Reid, whom polls indicate are not popular among Kentuckians.

Among the issues discussed were immigration reform, fiscal policy, international trade, education and environmental protection programs. In addition to fielding questions on those and other issues, the candidates gave opening and closing statements.

McConnell, the five-term incumbent and Senate Republican Leader, told the KFB leaders "this is a big race about big things." He said if the Republicans take control of the Senate, he would be head of that chamber and "in a position to take us to a new place."

Secretary Grimes, meanwhile, blamed McConnell for the gridlock in Washington and vowed "to be a Senator who can work on a bipartisan basis to get things done." She described herself as "a strong, independent Kentucky woman who will fight for our farm families."



McConnell noted some of his achievements for Kentucky agriculture, including the tobacco buyout program, a reduction in the estate tax, funding for state agricultural colleges and clearing the way for hemp production. He also noted that he is the only current Senator who has received two "Golden Plow" awards from the American Farm Bureau Federation in recognition of supporting the organization's policy.

The candidates expressed disagreement on handling immigration reforms and the Affordable Care Act. McConnell said immigration reform should be addressed "on a piecemeal basis" because that looms as the most feasible political approach. Secretary Grimes said she would push for a comprehensive bipartisan package.

McConnell repeated his oft-heard call on the new health care law. "It ought to be pulled out root and branch." Secretary Grimes said the new law has given more Kentuckians access to affordable health care, but later added: "We have to work to streamline the Affordable Care Act."

The two agreed on opposition to a controversial EPA proposal to expand regulations on streams and other small bodies of water under the Clean Water Act. This issue is part of Farm Bureau's "Ditch the Rule" campaign. They also sounded the same theme on government regulations in general, expressing concerns about the impact on small businesses.

The stark contrast was evident in their closing remarks. McConnell stressed that if Republicans can take control of the Senate, they would control Congress and have the opportunity to impose significant changes. "My position puts me in the middle of every big decision in the Senate," he said.

Secretary Grimes, who spoke last, told the KFB leaders there is "a clear contrast" between the two and that she would be the best representative in Washington for Kentuckians. "We have to have a Senator who can work on a bipartisan basis to get things done," she said.

The event drew widespread media coverage, with more than 40 media representatives present. With a meeting room packed with video cameras, many of the journalists had to watch the event as it was streamed to TVs in two nearby rooms.

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# Roadside Market Tour



By Fran McCall

Coordinator  
Certified Roadside Farm Market Program

The group took a wagon tour of Kruger Farms.

**T**he annual KFB Roadside Farm Market Summer Tour took 45 participants to Oregon to look at a variety of agribusinesses, with a focus on farm markets. The four-day event also included stops at some popular tourist attractions.

The group flew into Portland and immediately headed to Kruger Farms, twelve miles from downtown. The 150-acre working farm owned by Don Kruger offers six types of u-pick berries, tomatoes, peppers and pumpkins; plus a wide variety of other vegetables available for purchase in their farm store.

On Day Two the first farm stop was Christensen Farms, where Zach and Don Christensen produce barley and malt, wheat, grass seed, clover seed, honey, grass fed lamb, flax and hazelnuts, which are an integral part of the operation. There's also a receiving station for the Blue Diamond Growers located in Salem.

Next the group traveled to E.Z. Orchards in Salem and was joined by Oregon Farm Bureau members and staff for lunch. Much variety is available in the E.Z. Orchards' Farm market -- from fresh donuts, homemade blends of vintage French cider, gifts and a vast number of fruits and veggies grown by E.Z. Orchards plus 15 other local farmers. Owner John Zielinski shared his story with the group and noted the addition of a shortcake stand and school tours for children.

From there the group went to Bauman's Farm and Garden in Gervais. Rick and Barb Bauman started this market with vegetables and berries in 1988 in hope of earning enough money so that Barb could stay home with the family. They continue to expand their market each year by adding another greenhouse, store section or something new to the play area. They have built a nursery





Top left, Oregon FB President Barry Bushue (middle, green shirt) led a tour of his operation, which features flowers, fruits and vegetables.



Top right, KFB President Mark Haney spoke to the group during lunch at Kruger Farm Market, just outside of Portland.

Right, The group posed for a picture at Multnomah Falls, one of the nation's highest waterfalls.

and greenhouse with a display garden plus added a bakery.

At Wooden Shoe Tulip Farm in Woodburn, Oregon Farm Bureau Third Vice President Barb Iverson hosted the group. The Iverson family began growing tulips in 1974 and saw an opportunity to expand from a small bulb operation to a huge agritourism destination. They open their tulip fields each spring for visitors and offer mail order bulb orders, cut flowers, potted tulips, a gift shop, wine tasting, and all sorts of food and activities on weekends. In recent years they have added a Pumpkin Fest and Haunting in the fall, to sell bulbs and incorporate the other crops they farm including corn, wheat, pumpkins, green beans and grapes.

Day Three began with sightseeing at Multnomah Falls, the highest waterfall in the state. At Hood River Lavender Farm, the group observed a u-pick lavender operation along with gorgeous views of Mt. Hood, Mt. Adams and the Hood River Valley. Next stop was the Apple Valley County Store which sells produce, jams and jellies.

Yet another interesting stop was The Pines 1852 Winery. Past Oregon Farm Bureau Board Member Lonnie Wright and his daughter Sierra operate the small family-owned business specializing in century-old vine zinfandel. The business started with Lonnie growing and selling grapes to other wineries in the area, and has expanded to include their own label.

The final day began in Boring, at Bushue's Family Farm Market and Nursery, home of Barry Bushue, President of Oregon Farm Bureau and Vice President of American Farm Bureau. The family-owned and operated business offers flowers and vegetable starts in the spring and transitions to u-pick strawberries and raspberries in early summer. In the late summer and early fall, they have u-pick tomatoes, cucumbers, and a variety of other produce, as well as flowers for drying. In October, they open a Pumpkin Patch and offer hayrides and other family entertainment.

Portland Farmers Market was the final organized stop of the



day.

The tour was co-sponsored by KFB Federation, KFB Mutual Insurance Company and Farm Credit Services of Mid-America. For more information about KFB's Certified Roadside Farm Market Program, contact Fran McCall, [Fran.McCall@kyfb.com](mailto:Fran.McCall@kyfb.com) or 502-495-5000 ext. 7238.



# “Green” and growing



By Bobbie Curd

**Flowers, plants and produce are abundant at Daynabrook**

A few miles north from where they were sweethearts at Mercer County High School, John and Erin Lyons are operating an expanding greenhouse and nursery enterprise on 40 acres of pristine land near the tiny community of Salvisa. In the years ahead, they hope to make Daynabrook Greenhouse and Nursery a popular agritourism destination where families can enjoy a variety of activities.

A participant in KFB's Certified Roadside Farm Markets Program, Daynabrook has 30 greenhouses spawning mums, flowers, fruits and vegetables. It's a diverse business where income is derived from a number of marketing channels. For example: Local schools buy their mums to utilize for fundraising projects. The city of Harrodsburg

uses Daynabrook flower baskets to decorate Main Street. Retail sales come via outlets in Harrodsburg, Danville and Lawrenceburg (with plans to expand to Versailles.)

John Lyons also provides landscaping services for area businesses.

While John holds a degree in Physical Education and Erin has one in Elementary Education, the young couple went into their business with agricultural foundations. John found his greenhouse classes in high school fulfilling and discovered his green thumb, opening a landscaping business while attending college. Erin, meanwhile, worked on a farm with her father.

They bought Daynabrook in 2011, with the business already well established, going back to 1986. But they've

made additions and have big plans for the future. They have a two-year-old daughter, Kylee.

The farm has a man-made pond stocked with bass, catfish and bluegill, with a large dock and paddle boats. Nearby is a beautiful field full of wildflowers. John says they use a Midwest Flower mix, so a variety of colors come through. Not far from there is a developing apple orchard, several years shy from full productivity.

Plans include a pavilion near the pond and other amenities to attract families.

Erin says the couple love the outdoors and want to provide an enjoyable rural environment for others to experience. They intend to share their passion by hosting school groups, weddings and





Top left, tomatoes in one of the 30 greenhouses.

Top right, a dock was built on the fishing lake. Paddle boats will be available, as well.

Right, John and Erin Lyons with daughter Kylee.

Facing page, An apple orchard was added to the farm.



other special events.

Erin says she notices how kids don't seem to spend much time playing outdoors or enjoying the land. She hopes to help change that in their community by making Daynabrook a popular destination.

John and Erin stay extremely busy keeping up with their business. They attend to around 15,000 mums, transplanting from the greenhouses, setting them up to the irrigation system, applying the growth regulators and so on. During the spring planting season they'll employ up to ten workers.

Next spring, they will open a market at the nursery location. It hasn't been in full swing yet due to their off-farm retail business. But those interested in purchasing directly from the farm can call them at 859 734-7863.

"We're really in Fall transition period and under construction right now, but we hope for a lot of our plans to be in full swing by springtime," John says.

Erin says the best way to keep up with what's going on at the nursery is on Facebook at Daynabrook Greenhouse. The web site is [www.daynabrook.com](http://www.daynabrook.com).

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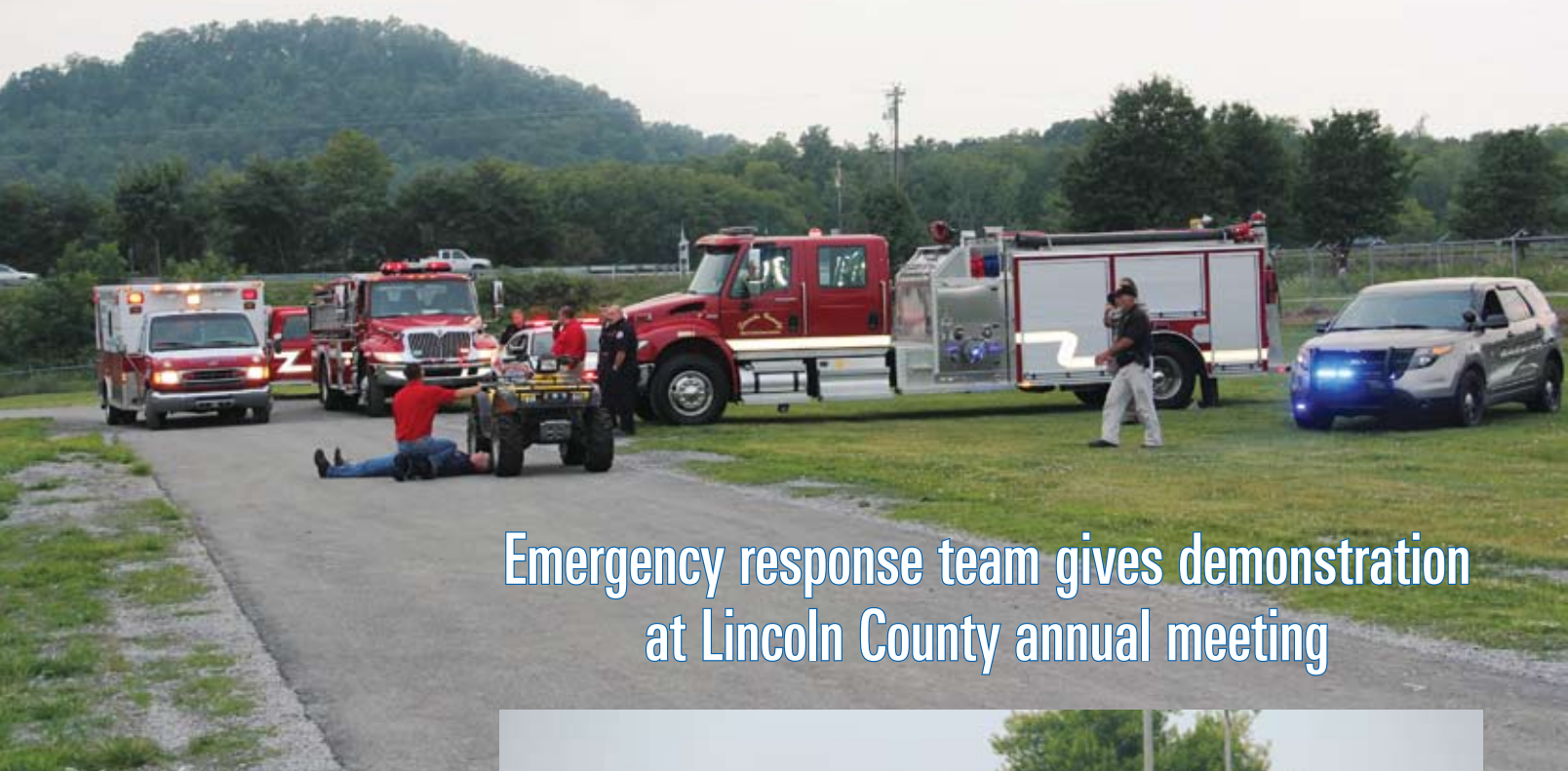
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# No accident



## Emergency response team gives demonstration at Lincoln County annual meeting



Top, a fleet of emergency vehicles arrived for the demonstration.

Above, the crowd watched the mock accident response at the Lincoln County Fairgrounds.

The hundreds of Lincoln County FB members who regularly flock to their annual meeting for good food, fellowship and door prizes had an added attraction this year as a fleet of emergency vehicles rolled into the fairgrounds to demonstrate how accidents are handled. In this case it was a mock ATV mishap, with paramedics and other emergency personnel preparing the victim for transport to a medical facility.

Afterward, Lincoln County EMS coordinator Donnie Gilliam told the large audience “we did this to show you our capability.” He touted the county’s Code Red Notification system. “It is the preferred way to let you know what’s going on in the county,” he said.

Plans to transport the mock victim via a helicopter from Air E-Vac were scrapped due to a low cloud cover on what had been a stormy August day. Nevertheless, a line of emergency vehicles – with lights flashing – streamed into the Lincoln County Fairgrounds just south of Stanford on U.S. 27. This included Stanford EMS, Lincoln County Fire Department, Lincoln County Sheriff’s Office, local emergency management officials and Lincoln County paramedics. Fort Logan Hospital also had an official present.

KFB President Mark Haney, who lives in neighboring Pulaski County, was there with his wife, Marlene, and fellow executive committee members Eddie Melton, Fritz Giesecke and David S. Beck. The guest list also included State Representative David Meade, County Judge-Executive Jim W. Adams Jr., Sheriff Curt Folger and Magistrates Joe Stanley, David Faulkner and Lonnie Pruitt.

KFB Director David Campbell of Lincoln County presided over the program.



# County Annual Meetings

ADAIR COUNTY September 23 Cranmer Dining Hall	7 p.m.	CASEY COUNTY October 9 Ag Expo Center	6:30 p.m.	LAWRENCE COUNTY October 21 Down Home Grill	6 p.m.	PIKE COUNTY September 18 Kentucky Expo Center	6 p.m.
ANDERSON COUNTY October 13 Eagle Lake Convention Center	5:30 p.m.	CLAY COUNTY October 10 Farm Bureau Bldg.	6 p.m.	LESLIE COUNTY September 16 Farm Bureau Office	4:30 p.m.	PULASKI COUNTY October 14 Southwestern HS	6:30 p.m.
BARREN COUNTY September 20 Trojan Academy	6:30 p.m.	CLINTON COUNTY September 11 County Fair Bldg	6 p.m.	LIVINGSTON COUNTY September 26 Central High School Cafeteria	7 p.m.	ROCKCASTLE COUNTY September 19 Roundstone Elementary School	6 p.m.
BELL COUNTY September 25 County FB Office	6 p.m.	CUMBERLAND COUNTY September 26 Veterans Memorial Bldg.	6 p.m.	LOGAN COUNTY September 13 Extension Office	6 p.m.	RUSSELL COUNTY September 5 Fairgrounds	6 p.m.
BOONE COUNTY September 9 6 p.m. Extension Office		FAYETTE COUNTY October 6 Boone Center	7 p.m.	LYON COUNTY September 12 Lyon County School Cafeteria	6 p.m.	SCOTT COUNTY September 16 Extension Office	6:30 p.m.
BOURBON COUNTY September 18 County Park	6:30 p.m.	FLOYD COUNTY October 16 Jenny Wiley State Park	7 p.m.	MAGOFFIN COUNTY September 8 Extension Office	6:30 p.m.	SHELBY COUNTY October 4 Extension Office	6:30 p.m.
BOYD COUNTY October 13 Ken Franks Community Bldg.	6:30 p.m.	FRANKLIN COUNTY October 16 Extension Office	6:30 p.m.	MARSHALL COUNTY September 22 Farm Bureau office	6 p.m.	TAYLOR COUNTY October 13 Taylor Co. Middle School	6 p.m.
BOYLE COUNTY September 23 Ky School for the Deaf	7 p.m.	GARRARD COUNTY September 23 Forks of Dix River Baptist Church	6:30 p.m.	MARTIN COUNTY October 3 Farm Bureau office	9 p.m.	WARREN COUNTY September 13 South Warren High School	5:30 p.m.
BRACKEN COUNTY October 7 Extension Office	7 p.m.	GRANT COUNTY September 13 Farm Bureau Hall	6 p.m.	MCCRACKEN COUNTY September 13 Knights of Columbus Hall	6 p.m.	WASHINGTON COUNTY September 18 Mackville Community Center	7 p.m.
BRECKINRIDGE COUNTY September 30 FFA Camp Cafeteria	6 p.m.	GREEN COUNTY October 9 Green County High School	6 p.m.	MCCREARY COUNTY September 18 RECC Building	6 p.m.	WAYNE COUNTY September 22 Aspire Center	6 p.m.
BULLITT COUNTY September 27 6 p.m. Extension Office		HARDIN COUNTY September 19 Central Hardin High School	6:30 p.m.	MERCER COUNTY September 8 Extension Office	6 p.m.	WHITLEY COUNTY September 9 Brashears Grocery	6 p.m.
BUTLER COUNTY September 9 Hawes Ag Complex	6 p.m.	HARLAN COUNTY September 20 Farm Bureau Bldg.	Noon	METCALFE COUNTY September 18 Extension Office	6 p.m.	WOODFORD COUNTY September 16 Life Adventure Center	6:30 p.m.
CALDWELL COUNTY October 11 UK Ag Research Center	6:30 p.m.	HENRY COUNTY October 9 Farm Bureau office	7 p.m.	MORGAN COUNTY October 9 Martha Stacy Bldg.	6 p.m.		
CALLOWAY COUNTY September 2 FB Office	7 p.m.	JACKSON COUNTY September 15 Energy Farm	6 p.m.	OWEN COUNTY October 6 Extension Office	6 p.m.		
CARROLL COUNTY October 13 Farm Bureau office	7 p.m.	JEFFERSON COUNTY November 11 Farm Bureau Office	7:30 p.m.	PENDLETON COUNTY September 27 Farm Bureau office	6:30 p.m.		

# Extraordinary!!!



The entrance to Fresh Start Farms was decorated farm-style for the cookout and concert.

**A**n extraordinary effort by LaRue County FB has led to a unique agricultural open house aptly named “AGstravaganza.” Unlike the customary field days or festivals confined to one site and a specific schedule, AGstravaganza provides an opportunity to visit at one’s leisure one or more of a variety of farms and agribusinesses over a six-hour period. Then there’s a free cookout and country music concert.

In just its second year, the event has become a big deal. So much so that LaRue County FB published a special eight-page section in The LaRue County Herald News promoting the agenda and profiling the farms and agribusiness involved. A similar emphasis was put on signage, fliers and T-shirts promoting the event.

“We’re really proud of this,” remarked Dale Dobson, a LaRue County FB Director well known across the state for his work as the farm safety

program director for the Kentucky Department of Agriculture. “We put a lot of thought into this and cherry-picked (from other successful ideas) to make this as convenient and interesting as possible. We’ve made this easy to do to fit in with busy schedules for Saturday.”

A visit to any site earns a free ticket to the cookout and concert held at Fresh Start Farms, a large-scale grain operation between Hodgenville and Sonora. Owners Ryan and

Misty Bivens have a huge equipment shed for enjoying the hamburgers and pork burgers cooked by the local commodity groups. Rising country music star J.D. Shelburne has performed for both renditions of AGstravaganza. More than 500 have attended each year.

The diversity of farms on the tour is appealing, spotlighting dairy, row crops, beef cattle, swine, an orchard plus Lee’s Garden Center with flowers, bedding plants, trees,



# AGstravaganza



Hinton's Orchard & Farm Market was a tour stop, where visitors could note a connection with KFB's Certified Roadside Farm Markets program.



FFA members Dalton Hornback and Eli Williams helped with the tours at Rock Brothers Dairy.

shrubs and fresh produce. Another unique aspect is the involvement of two winners of American Farm Bureau's annual excellence in agriculture national award for young farmers. Ryan and Misty Bivens won in 2013; Aaron and Ashley Reding of Homestead Family Farms were the 2010 winners.

Larue County may be the only county in the nation that can lay claim to having two winners of the prestigious award.

Other AGstravaganza stops were Rock Brothers Dairy, Shady Rest Farms, R&K Angus Farm and Hinton's Orchard and Farm Market.

Gary Rock, owner of the 34-year-old dairy operation, said events like AGstravaganza are vital to connecting farmers with those who have little or no knowledge about agriculture.

"There was a time when kids grew up and had a concept about agriculture, but now they don't. One of the

greatest things we can achieve is to get these young people to have an understanding of what we do out here on the farms," said Rock, who milks about 85 head on land that has been in his family for 280 years.

Rock said he was proud to showcase his Pack Barn, a loose housing system that provides a more comfortable environment for his cows.

"Best thing I've ever done," he said of the addition of the barn.

At Shady Rest Farm, the Ragland family already has ample experience as ambassadors for agriculture. They have been featured in educational and promotional videos, exhibiting their stewardship of their land and hogs.

"Farmers today have to tell their story," explained Caleb Ragland. "If they don't, people aren't going to know the reality."

Added Dale Dobson: "We want them to understand agriculture. And we want them to understand what Farm Bureau is, too."



Four generations of Raglands welcomed visitors to Shady Rest Farms. Top right are Howard and Tickle, with their son David and his wife, Debbie at the left. Then there is their son Caleb with wife Leanne, and their two children, Cory (bottom left) and Charlie. The farm is centered on hogs and row crops. Here, Leanne is holding a one-day-old piglet.







## Discount Tickets



**K**FB members can get **20 percent off tickets** to Kentucky Speedway for the September 19-20 ARCA and NASCAR races. To purchase tickets online, go to <http://www.kentuckyspeedway.com/tickets/>, select the race you want to attend and then enter FARM in the "usepromocode" block.

# Herbal Formula Eases Farmers' Aches And Pains

"I read about Stuart's Pain Formula in a farm magazine," says Rickey D. Snow, Hood, California. "I hurt my shoulder January 18th 2013, and had constant pain until the middle of March. My doctors could do nothing, within 10 minutes of applying pain formula, the pain was completely gone."

Warren Ward of Pemberton, Minnesota says his knees ached so terrible at night that he couldn't get to sleep without taking pain killers. "An orthopedic surgeon told me both my knees were shot, I had bone rubbing on bone, and I needed knee replacement surgery. Then someone told me about Stuart's Pain Formula. I started using it and in 3 days I had no pain in my knees. I went right to sleep at night and I haven't taken a pain killer since."

The cream contains extracts of the herbs Comfrey and Arnica in a liposome base that penetrates the skin rapidly, says Gary Stuart who founded the company in 1982. "People now use the product to relieve joint and muscle pain associated with arthritis and injuries," Stuart says.

Today the company manufactures and markets more than a dozen herbal and natural-oil healing and pain products for both human and animal use.

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By Ed McQueen

## U.S. milk exports are flowing

U.S. commercial exports of dairy products have grown since 1995, accounting for an increasing share of the total commercial disappearance of U.S. milk production, according to USDA. On a milk-equivalent skim-solids basis (a method of adding up quantities of diverse milk products), U.S. commercial exports grew on average 11.8 percent per year between 1995 and 2013, with their share of total commercial disappearance rising from 3.4 percent in 1995 to 18.7 percent in 2013. Commercial exports of nonfat dry milk (NDM) and skim milk powder (SMP) played a major role in this increase. Major U.S. markets for NDM and SMP have been Mexico, China, Philippines, and Indonesia. Total FY 2014 dairy exports are forecast at a record \$6.8 billion.

The USDA Foreign Agricultural Service (FAS) reported there are signs the Chinese dairy market is evolving with imports of various dairy products accelerating. The FAS expects China to surpass Canada to become the U.S.'s second most important market. During the first five months of 2014, China's imports of skimmed milk powder were up 89 percent to 131,000 tons, imports of whole milk powder were up 70 percent to 487,000 tons, cheese imports rose 67 percent, and imports of butterfat surged 121 percent.

## SRW wheat crop has variable quality

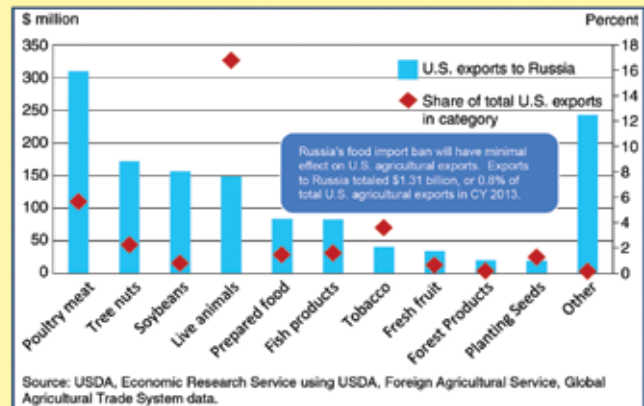
USDA and U.S. Wheat Associates have released their quality analysis of the 2014 soft red winter wheat (SRW) crop, estimated at 466 million bushels. The SRW crop had predominantly "fair to excellent" growing conditions across most of the growing area. However, excessive moisture in many areas, both during flowering and at harvest, adversely affected wheat quality in the Gulf Port region -- the six states along the Mississippi River which had 80 percent of the production sampled. The survey evaluated 527 samples from nine states, including Kentucky.

The overall average grade is U.S. No. 2, though the average test weight of 58.0 lb/bu just barely meets the grade requirement. The overall test weight is 0.6 lb/bu below the five-year average. The Gulf Port's average test weight of 57.8 lb/bu weighs down the East Coast average of 58.7 lb/bu. The overall average protein content of 9.8 percent is below the 5-year average of 10.1 percent. While both areas have similar protein content, the East Coast wheat has other superior qualities. The wheat falling number averages 340 for the East Coast and 304 in the Gulf Port states. Regarding DON (vomitin), the East Coast averages 0.6 ppm but the Gulf Port averages 2.5 ppm which compares to its 5-year average of 1.4 ppm. Elevated DON levels exist in Illinois, southwest Indiana and Kentucky.

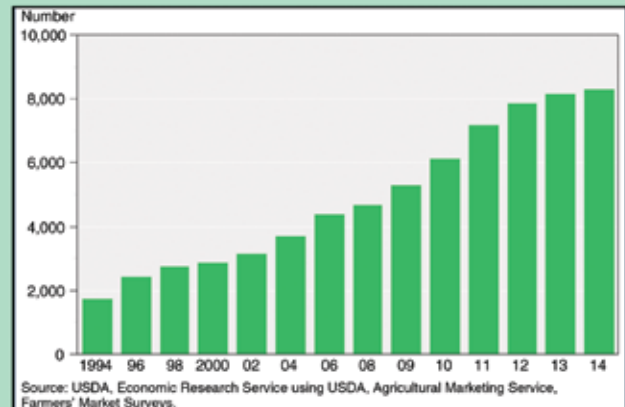
## Beef imports rising to meet demand

U.S. beef imports through June 2014 were up 12 percent, led by stronger imports from Australia (+36 percent), Canada (+11 percent), and New Zealand (+3 percent). U.S. supplies of lean manufacturing beef have declined as weekly federally-inspected cow and bull slaughter was about 12 percent lower through the end of July. Meanwhile, cattle slaughter has increased 10 percent in Australia, the top supplier of U.S. beef imports, due to continued drought. Lack of forage has led to record beef production and a 16-percent increase in exports. The U.S. has benefited most from the increase in Australia's shipments. The forecast for U.S. beef imports in 2014 is 2.584 billion pounds, up 334 million pounds from 2013. Beef imports in 2015 could grow to 2.60 billion pounds as U.S. beef production declines further next year.

### U.S. Ag Exports to Russia in 2013



### U.S. Farmers' Markets, 1994-2014





## Markets participants win enviro award

**J**on and Sylvia Bednarski, whose Sherwood Acres in Oldham County is a member of KFB's Certified Roadside Farm Markets program, have been recognized by the National Cattlemen's Beef Association as a regional winner of an Environmental Stewardship Award. They have 150 acres on two tracts atop the Harrods Creek watershed, producing top quality beef from a Belted Galloway herd. They serve on the board of Oldham County FB.

## KFB's Russell Poore wins state award

**K**<sup>FB</sup> Director Russell Poore of Logan County was among three Kentucky farmers named 2014 Kentucky Local Food Heroes in a ceremony on opening day of the State Fair.



Russell Poore

Poore, who is chairman of KFB's Horticulture and Roadside Farm Markets Advisory Committees, operates a nursery near Russellville.

The other recipients were Brooke Eckmann of Ambrosia Farm in Shelby County and Jacob Sharpe of Sharpe Farms in Scott County. Agriculture Commissioner James Comer, Louisville Mayor Greg Fischer and Kentucky State Fair Board President Clifford "Rip" Rippetoe made the announcement.

"Our Local Food Heroes help meet an increasing demand for local food in Louisville and across Kentucky," Mayor Fischer said. "Locally grown food connects and strengthens rural and urban economies, benefits our bodies, and ultimately builds a stronger community."

The Local Food Hero Awards are in their second year. The awards are a partnership of the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, Seed Capital Kentucky, and Louisville Metro, and are sponsored by Farm Credit Mid-America.

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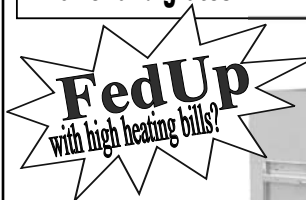
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