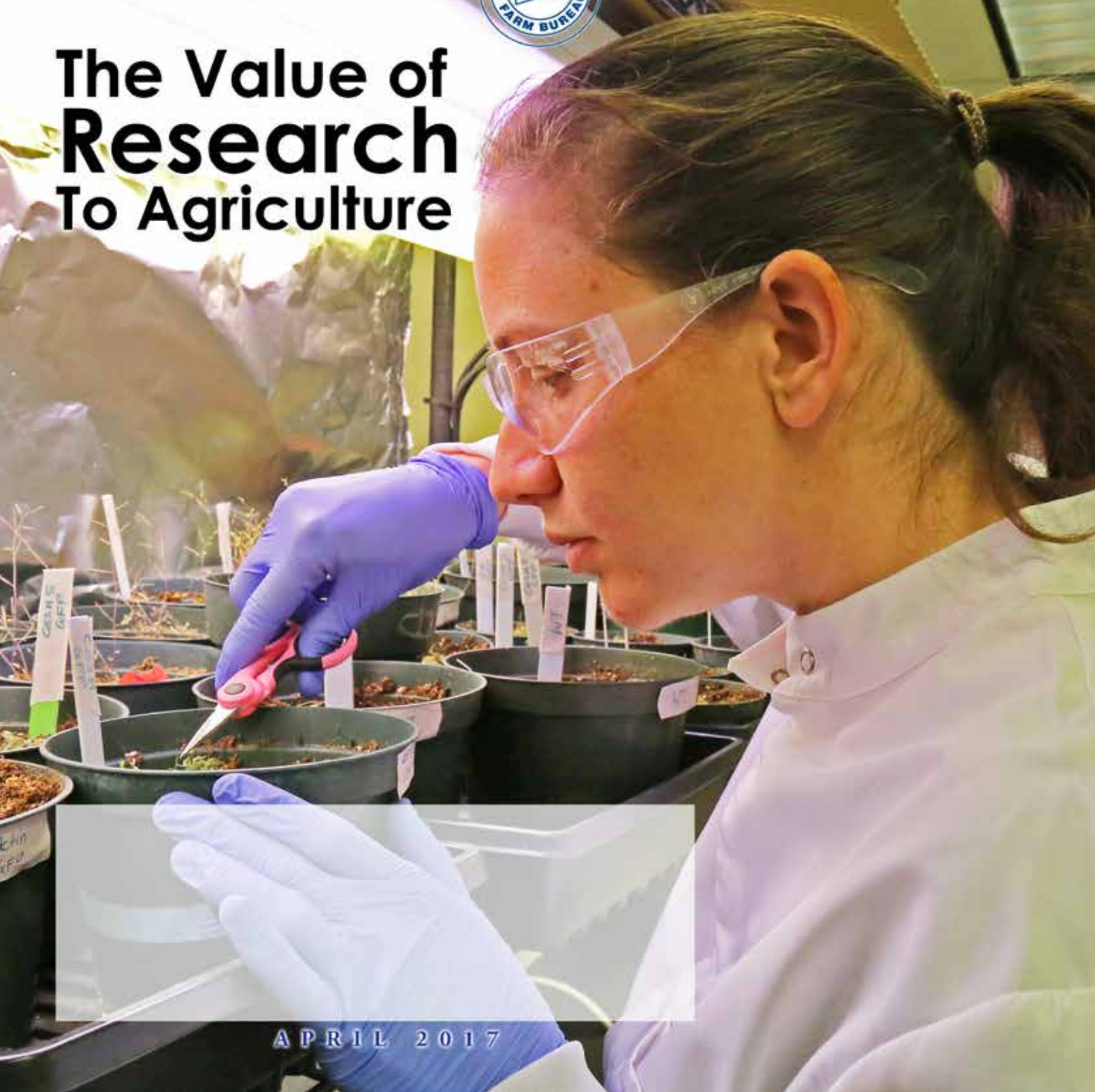


Kentucky

F A R M • B U R E A U • N E W S



The Value of Research To Agriculture



APRIL 2017

Farm Bureau, Inc.

DON'T MISS OUT ON GREAT SAVINGS

Use your Farm Bureau, Inc. membership today and take advantage of product discounts and benefits including:

Benefits

- Deeper discounts on frequently purchased products
- Access to more than 1.4 million products
- Shop Grainger's exclusive product line, including quality brands like Dayton, Condor, Tough Guy, Air Handler, Westward and more!
- Real-time product availability and order tracking
- 10% off all Grainger catalog and online products
- Prepaid freight* on orders shipped via ground transportation
- And so much more!

* Other freight charges will be incurred for services such as expedited delivery, air freight, freight collect, sourced orders, export orders, hazardous materials, buyer's carrier, shipments outside the contiguous U.S. or other special handling by the carrier.

Solutions

- Same-day shipping on 99% of in-stock items**
- After-hours emergency service—call 1-800-CALL-WWG (1-800-225-5994) to open up a branch any time—even nights and weekends (a \$50 fee may apply)
- KeepStock® inventory solutions help you save time, money and space
- Access to Grainger's Exclusive Brands—a powerful combination of quality, value and selection to fit your needs
- Grainger Online SafetyManager® is a comprehensive tool to help assess, build, maintain and track your safety management program
- Sourcing for hard-to-find products beyond the catalog

Sourcing for hard-to-find products beyond the catalog

Grainger KeepStock® solutions are subject to customer eligibility and agreements.

ORDER YOUR WAY

ONLINE at Grainger.com® and sign in to view your special pricing

ON THE GO with the Grainger Mobile App or mobile site

ON THE PHONE at 1-800-GRAINGER or call your local branch

IN THE BRANCH when you want to stop by

PUNCHOUT through your dedicated ordering system

VIEW YOUR SPECIAL PRICING

SIGN IN on Grainger.com to view your special pricing (you must be registered to sign in)

Not Registered? Go to Grainger.com®

©2015 W.W. Grainger, Inc. Valid as of 03/28/2016 Effective 2/1/2016 Expires 1/31/2019



Get it. Got it. Good.®

More Brands More Products More Solutions

Use your membership benefits today and SAVE on the products you use most including:

Cleaning: Consumables

Safety: People Safety

Electrical

Hand Tools

Welding

Motors

Outdoor Equipment

Plumbing: Pipe, Valves & Fittings

Power Tools

Safety: Facility Safety

FOR MORE INFORMATION
Dedicated Customer Support Line:
877-620-2852

For more information go to:
Grainger.com



KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU NEWS
Volume 16 | No. 3
April 2017

Contents

PRESIDENT'S COLUMN	3
COMMENT COLUMN	5
2017 KFB BEEF EXPO	6
KFB CANDID CONVERSATION	8
AMERICA'S FOOD SUPPLY	10
UNDERSTANDING THE FARM BILL	12
AG LITERACY	14
ANNUAL CROP SUMMARY	18
COUNTY CORNER	19
MARKETS	20
DOWN THE BACKROADS	21
KFB STATEMENT	22
UK COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE, FOOD AND ENVIRONMENT NEWS	23
KFB WOMEN'S CONFERENCE	24

Cover photo by Tim Thornberry
Dr. Victoria Pook, a post-doctoral scholar works in the lab of Seth DeBolt, horticulture professor in the UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment.

Interior graphics by Melissa LaRoche

Kentucky Farm Bureau News is published ten times per year. Combined issues for December-January and June-July are sent to all members. The remaining eight issues go to regular members. Bulk postage rate paid at Lebanon Junction, Ky. Changes in address should be mailed to KFB Communications Division, PO Box 20700, Louisville, Ky. 40250.

All advertising accepted subject to publisher's approval. Advertisers must assume liability of content of their advertising.
For rates and information call 1.800.798.2691



Farm families work hard to produce all of the crops necessary for the country's food, fiber and fuel needs but modern agriculture depends on more than just good soil, the right weather and a lot of sweat to be successful.

Research is one of the most important components of today's agriculture industry and in many ways just as vital as the soil and water. Thanks to ag research efforts made by both the public and private sectors, our producers are growing bigger and better crops today than ever before.

One of the greatest innovations that has taken place over the last two decades is the introduction of advanced bio-technologies into crop production. Thanks to extensive research, farmers are now able to grow crops more resistant to pests, weeds and disease; crops that produce larger yields; and crops that often prove to have more nutritional value.

None of this would be possible without the research that went into this initiative. But it's not just row crop producers that are benefiting. Our cattle industry has prospered greatly from research in genetics and animal health. Our soil, water and forages are better today because of advances in production methods. Dairy producers are more efficient because of knowledge gained in cow comfort and innovations made in farm robotics. There isn't a sector of our industry that hasn't been touched by research and the funding provided for it in the Farm Bill.

Something we can be very proud of is the fact that much of the research that has benefitted the ag industry came from this state. We enjoy a wonderful relationship with our many universities and colleges and an abundance of research projects have started at these institutions. We also enjoy one of the most comprehensive Cooperative Extension networks in the country. It is through extension we move this research into the field.

In addition to our postsecondary partners, we are blessed to have Kentucky Agricultural Development Funds that have been invested in our state's agriculture industry. Many of the funded projects have a direct relationship to research and development in programs at both the county and state levels.

As we continue our talks about the Farm Bill, it's important to remember how valuable the funding for research is to our family farms. As we get closer to seeing a complete bill, many budgetary targets will be placed upon our industry's most valuable piece of legislation. We must continue to encourage our lawmakers to adequately fund this bill not only for the research aspects but for all farm programs.

We have a rich agriculture heritage in Kentucky; one to be proud of and held up as a model for other states. But we couldn't be at the point we are had it not been for research efforts made to make our farms better and keep our rural communities sustainable.

Mark Haney
President
Kentucky Farm Bureau



Choice Hotels

With more than 6,400 hotels worldwide, and a range of brands from upscale to economy, Choice Hotels has a hotel to fit every need.* And travel is even more rewarding with the Choice Privileges® Rewards Program, with points that add up fast so you can earn stays around the world. You can always count on Choice Hotels® properties for a warm welcome and real value, wherever your journey takes you.

Kentucky Farm Bureau Members
Book Now and Save up to 20%!**

Three Simple Ways to Book:



Mobile

Download the Choice Hotels® mobile app and enter Rate ID #00209600



Phone

Call 800.4CHOICE and quote Rate ID #00209600



Web

Visit ChoiceHotels.com and enter Rate ID #00209600



*Amenities vary by location.
**To receive discount, reservations must be made as stated above. Based on availability and location. Other terms and conditions may apply. Hotels are individually owned and operated. Only authorized association member may book using the Choice Hotels® preferred rate. The rate ID number may not be distributed externally.
© 2016 Choice Hotels International, Inc. All rights reserved. 16-564/09/16



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

KFB OFFICERS

- Mark HaneyPresident
- Eddie Melton 1st Vice President
- Fritz Giesecke 2nd Vice President
- David S. Beck..... Executive Vice President

KFB DIRECTORS

- Tripp Furches..... Murray
- Glenn HowellFulton
- Kelly Thurman..... Livermore
- Eddie Melton Sebree
- Mary Kate Kordes..... Central City
- Fritz Giesecke..... Horse Cave
- Larry Thomas Elizabethtown
- Pat Henderson Irvington
- Jay Coleman Cave City
- Larry Clark..... Greensburg
- Scott Travis..... Cox's Creek
- Randy Chrisman..... Lawrenceburg
- Joe Paul Mattingly Raywick
- David Chappell Owenton
- Terry RowlettCampbellsburg
- Mark Haney..... Nancy
- Kim McCoyBurkesville
- Victor Rexroat..... Russell Springs
- David L. CampbellStanford
- Terry Lawson Mt. Vernon
- Alex Barnett.....Cynthiana
- Shane WisemanWinchester
- David McGlone..... Grayson
- Carroll AmyxCampton
- Bige HensleyManchester
- Cloyce Hinkle Artemus
- Marshall CoyleOwingsville
- Vickie BryantTompkinsville
- Zack IsonHarrodsburg
- Roger Fannin..... Harlan
- Nancy Cox Lexington
- Brandon Davis..... Frankfort
- Greg Drake..... Bowling Green

KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU NEWS WWW.KYFB.COM

WWW.KYFB.COM/FEDERATION/MEMBER-BENEFITS

- Editor Tim Thornberry
- Art Director J.K. Monte de Ramos
-Open-Look Business Solutions
- Dallas, TX

- AdvertisingCasey McNeal
- Times-Citizen Communications
-800 798-2691 (ext. 334)

- Circulation Kelley Parks
- (502) 495-5112

comment COLUMN



The month of April is recognized as the time to celebrate and bring attention to our environment by way of Earth Day. But as Secretary of the state's Energy and Environment Cabinet, I see every month as a time to appreciate our natural environment, and our natural resources, in Kentucky.

Kentucky has such a diverse topography with plenty of water sources, rich farmland and abundant forests. Our job is to ensure these treasures remain relevant for generations to come and I can't think of a better place to showcase good stewardship than on the farm.

Farm families are the original caretakers of our natural resources. They depend on good soil, adequate and clean water, and rich forages. So, it's only natural for farmers to care for those resources.

Kentucky has taken the lead in implementing good management practices that help nurture the land and water. The Agriculture Water Quality Act is a prime example of that. Kentucky Farm Bureau (KFB) supported that legislation and it has proven to be very effective. Agriculture has always been a proponent of improving water quality and enhancing the environment.

In 2016, KFB worked to get legislation passed creating the Kentucky Water Resources Board. Passage of this bill will help to promote economic development opportunities through the strategic and efficient use of water resources. Water is, and will always be, one of Kentucky's most important natural resources. Ensuring a long-term adequate supply of on-farm water resources for agriculture alleviates pressure on rural/urban water supplies.

From a soil perspective, Kentucky has been a leader in no-till crop production for decades, something that has helped alleviate soil erosion and has also contributed to water quality. In fact, no-till production began in Kentucky, in Christian County.

Our energy-producing resources, both coal and oil/gas, also play an important part in the economic well-being of our Commonwealth. We benefit from the low-cost electricity that is produced from our coal. But farmers have stepped up production in their efforts to produce for the biofuels industry, another form of energy that has become instrumental in providing for our everyday fuel needs.

At the Energy and Environment Cabinet, we take seriously our role as overseers of how we carefully and thoughtfully address the energy needs of our citizens. We also understand how Kentucky's remarkable natural resources have helped shape our economy, culture and history.

These resources provide us with the responsibility of good stewardship and I know our Kentucky farm families are setting the example of being those good stewards.

As we move forward in our energy and environment efforts, I am grateful that our agriculture industry is poised to make continued contributions to keep Kentucky's natural resources sustainable for many generations to come and provide many more Earth Day celebrations.

Charles G. Snavelly, Secretary
Kentucky Energy and Environment Cabinet

Kentucky Farm Bureau, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture and Farm Credit Mid-America were the major sponsors of the Beef Expo.



HARBOR FREIGHT

QUALITY TOOLS AT RIDICULOUSLY LOW PRICES

CHICAGO ELECTRIC POWER TOOLS

Customer Rating

★★★★★

Blade sold separately.

SUPER COUPON
12" SLIDING COMPOUND
DOUBLE-BEVEL MITER SAW
WITH LASER GUIDE

ITEM 61969/61970
69684 shown

SUPER COUPON
~~\$134.99~~

SAVE \$204

~~\$199.99~~

Compare \$339

LIMIT 4 - Original coupon only. No use on prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase or without original receipt. Valid through 8/4/17.

HARDY MECHANIC'S GLOVES

SIZE ITEM

MED 62434/62426

LG 62433/62428

X-LG 62432/62429

YOUR CHOICE

~~\$3.99~~

SAVE 60%

~~\$5.99~~

Compare \$9.98

Item 62429 shown

Customer Rating

★★★★★

LIMIT 3 - Original coupon only. No use on prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase or without original receipt. Valid through 8/4/17.

WARRIOR

SUPER COUPON

29 PIECE TITANIUM
NITRIDE COATED
HIGH SPEED STEEL
DRILL BIT SET

Customer Rating

★★★★★

ITEM 62281/61637 shown

SAVE 83%

~~\$19.99~~

SUPER COUPON

~~\$99~~

Compare \$59.98

Item 62281/61637 shown

Customer Rating

★★★★★

LIMIT 3 - Original coupon only. No use on prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase or without original receipt. Valid through 8/4/17.

CENTRAL MACHINERY

SUPER COUPON

20 TON SHOP PRESS

SAVE \$220

Pair of Arbor Plates Included

Customer Rating

★★★★★

ITEM 32879

60603 shown

SUPER COUPON

~~\$149.99~~

~~\$174.99~~

Compare \$369.99

Item 32879/60603 shown

Customer Rating

★★★★★

LIMIT 3 - Original coupon only. No use on prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase or without original receipt. Valid through 8/4/17.

CENTECH

SUPER COUPON

AUTOMATIC BATTERY
FLOAT CHARGER

Customer Rating

★★★★★

ITEM 69594

69955

42292 shown

SAVE 85%

~~\$8.99~~

SUPER COUPON

~~\$4.99~~

Compare \$34.99

Item 69594/69955/42292 shown

Customer Rating

★★★★★

LIMIT 3 - Original coupon only. No use on prior purchases after 30 days from original purchase or without original receipt. Valid through 8/4/17.

PITTSBURGH AUTOMOTIVE

SUPER COUPON

RAPID PUMP®
4 TON HEAVY DUTY
STEEL FLOOR JACK

ITEM 60706/62319

68056 shown

• Weighs 105 lbs.

SUPER COUPON
~~\$109.99~~

SAVE \$90

~~\$129.99~~

Compare \$19

CANDID CONVERSATION

UK College of Agriculture, Food and Environment Dean Nancy Cox

KFB Candid Conversation presents a discussion about the topical issues facing the agricultural industry in a question and answer format with a member of the agricultural community. In this column, the issue of agricultural research and extension are discussed with Dean Nancy Cox of the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment.

In your estimation, what is the value of research to the agricultural industry?

Since the time land grant universities were created, we have gone from one farmer feeding four or five people to one farmer feeding 150 or more people in this country, and much of that is because of the advances research created. Whether it is in fertilizers, crop management systems, variety development or precision agriculture; you name it, and it came out of ag research. The productivity has been amazing.

What is an example of how funding affects this kind of research?

If you look at some of the recent U.S. Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service reports, the progress in improving productivity is slowing down and federal funding for ag research has been flat for 20 years. There are two major ways the universities get funding from the USDA; one is through competitive grants, and one is through partnerships with the states, termed capacity funds, which is critical in doing what a state needs. Those funds are precious to us, because they let us invest in infrastructure over the long haul. For instance, if you need to study disease in cattle, you can't just



the federal government. This funding is part of the Farm Bill, and we depend on it to serve our traditional programs as well as new ones.

What kinds of programs are available, that are really important to agriculture, that this funding helps?

There are programs in animal health and forages, and we're really seeing emerging water management issues that we need to address. Kentucky Farm Bureau has led our state to take a leap forward in that area. There is the Young Farmer and Rancher program that has enabled a new set of farmers to get into the business, and we put a lot into that. Programs of critical importance to Kentucky's families are the Expanded Food and Nutrition Program and the Supplemental Nutritional Assistance Program's educational arm. And these are just a few of the important programs.

always buy the cattle you need, you have to have a herd you can use over the long term and whose history you know. In this longer term type of research, you have to make sure you have the farms, the animals and the cropping systems needed to mobilize quickly. We depend on this USDA capacity funding, as well as state funding. A couple of specific examples include the cases of the Mare Reproductive Loss Syndrome and the problem we had with soybean rust a few years ago. Faced with these dire and immediate situations, we didn't have the luxury of time to write a grant, and our stakeholders benefitted from our ability to mobilize rapidly. If there's a problem in Kentucky, we'll find a way to work on it. To mobilize quickly, we have to have those capacity funds from

With a new budget proposal on the table in Washington and a Farm Bill coming, what are your hopes for research and extension?

With the high level budget that has been released by the President, there are some substantial cuts to the programs that we depend on for our research, and we're waiting to see what Congress does with those numbers. We have really benefited for many years from our Congressional members recognizing the value of research to the nation and each state. We hope we can inspire the confidence of the legislators as we move forward.

What would you say to the general public, who has little knowledge

of agriculture, about the need for research?

This research affects what the consumer pays for food. It also affects whether their food is safe; people want to know their food is safe for their children. Research helps to preserve wildlife, the environment and recreational uses of our lands. And they like to see our farmland. Our beautiful Kentucky farmland is preserved, because our farming enterprises take such good care of the land. Aside from ag production, we have programs to help those less fortunate learn how to eat in a healthier way. We have students who partner with researchers and go out into the community to visit and cook meals for senior citizens. Students, the third pillar of our land grant mission, are one of the big beneficiaries, because they are exposed to our knowledgeable faculty. Because of that, they will become better citizens. There are many ways in which the research here touches the consumer every day.

Is it a fair statement to say Kentucky is a leader in research because of the network of universities and agriculture organizations working together to make the industry better?

Any ag dean in Kentucky is very lucky. I can't imagine a better situation as far as all of the valued partnerships we have. Kentucky Farm Bureau is certainly a leader; it's progressive and connected across the state, and it is not overstating the case to say that someone from UK works with someone from KFB every day. The same goes for the Kentucky Department of Agriculture. Other agencies we talk to a lot are the Division of Water and the State Veterinarian's Office. We also work hand-in-hand with all the commodity groups for crops, animals and forestry. We have such good legislators who support agriculture at both the state and federal levels. And there are all the other universities that have agriculture programs; we all talk to each other, and there's a lot of cooperation rather than competitiveness. There is a thread of cooperation and growth that runs through the leadership of Kentucky agriculture, and I'm very grateful to be in this job.

Where does Extension fit in with all the research that is done at UK?

In everything I've said about research, it has taken Cooperative Extension to get that information out there, and we have a good reputation for service and innovation in each of our counties. I am so grateful for the 100-plus years of extension and of Kentucky's excellent agents. There are so many programs these agents put on. We certainly work hard to increase the ag economy, but in extension we also want to increase the ability of people to start a new business or maybe manage their finances better or to feed their

children better. So we're not just about ag production, we're about quality of life and helping families through initiatives like our strong Family and Consumer Science programs. A county extension program is designed, somewhat, to do what its county needs it to do most, and we have many transformative stories to tell from all across Kentucky. Extension also serves as a bridge between the agriculture industry and those who don't come from a farming background. Think about how many 4-H'ers don't come from a farm. We have a treasure trove of things to share with all of our citizens.

ATTENTION: FARM BUREAU MEMBERS

The Farm Bureau protects the future of your farm and your neighbors farms all year long.

Today, membership can save you up to \$500 on new Case IH tractors and equipment!



SAVE \$300

ON FARMALL® COMPACT A & B SERIES TRACTORS, ROUND & SMALL SQUARE BALERS, DISC MOWER CONDITIONERS, SICKLE MOWER CONDITIONERS



SAVE \$500

ON FARMALL® C, U & J SERIES TRACTORS, MAXXUM® & FARMALL® 100A SERIES TRACTORS, LARGE SQUARE BALERS & SP WINDROWERS



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Print your certificate today!
Visit fbverify.com/CaseIH

*A current Farm Bureau membership verification certificate must be presented to the Case IH dealer in advance of product delivery to receive the incentive discount. Farm Bureau Members can download a certificate at www.fbverify.com/caseih. Not a Farm Bureau member? Reach out to your state Farm Bureau to join today.



Farm Bureau and the FB State Logo are registered service marks owned by the American Farm Bureau Federation, and are used by CNI America LLC under license from the American Farm Bureau Federation. ©2014 CNI America LLC. All rights reserved. Case IH is a registered trademark of CNI America LLC. www.caseih.com



Growing our food supply

Why everyone should have an interest in their food economy

According to the latest U.S. Census of Agriculture, in 2012, the United States had 2.1 million farms – down 4.3 percent from the last agricultural Census in 2007, continuing a long-term trend of fewer farms.

With that said, the Census Bureau projects a U.S. population of 417 million in 2060, which is a 38 percent increase from 2007.

These population estimates vary from year to year and according to what organization is compiling that information, but the bottom line is, while the number of people in this country continues to rise, the number of farms in this country, to grow their food has declined.

That can only mean one of two things if all those people are expected to eat; either more food is grown here or that food has to come from other countries.

Food imports are nothing new to the U.S. market. Information from the

USDA Economic Research Service states, "In 2013, U.S. food consumption totaled 635 billion pounds, or more than 2,000 pounds per capita. Of this amount, imports accounted for 19 percent (123 billion pounds), or 390 pounds per capita."

That number has grown over the years for a variety of reasons including seasonal availability and the presence of a more diverse population wanting products that just aren't produced here, and by in large, those foods are safe to consume.

Veronica Nigh, an economist with the American Farm Bureau Federation (AFBF) said food imports are regulated by USDA APHIS, which requires that imported products exclude pests and be free of disease.

"Those requirements are enforced via sanitary and phyto certificates that are required for each shipment," she said. "Customs and Border Protection

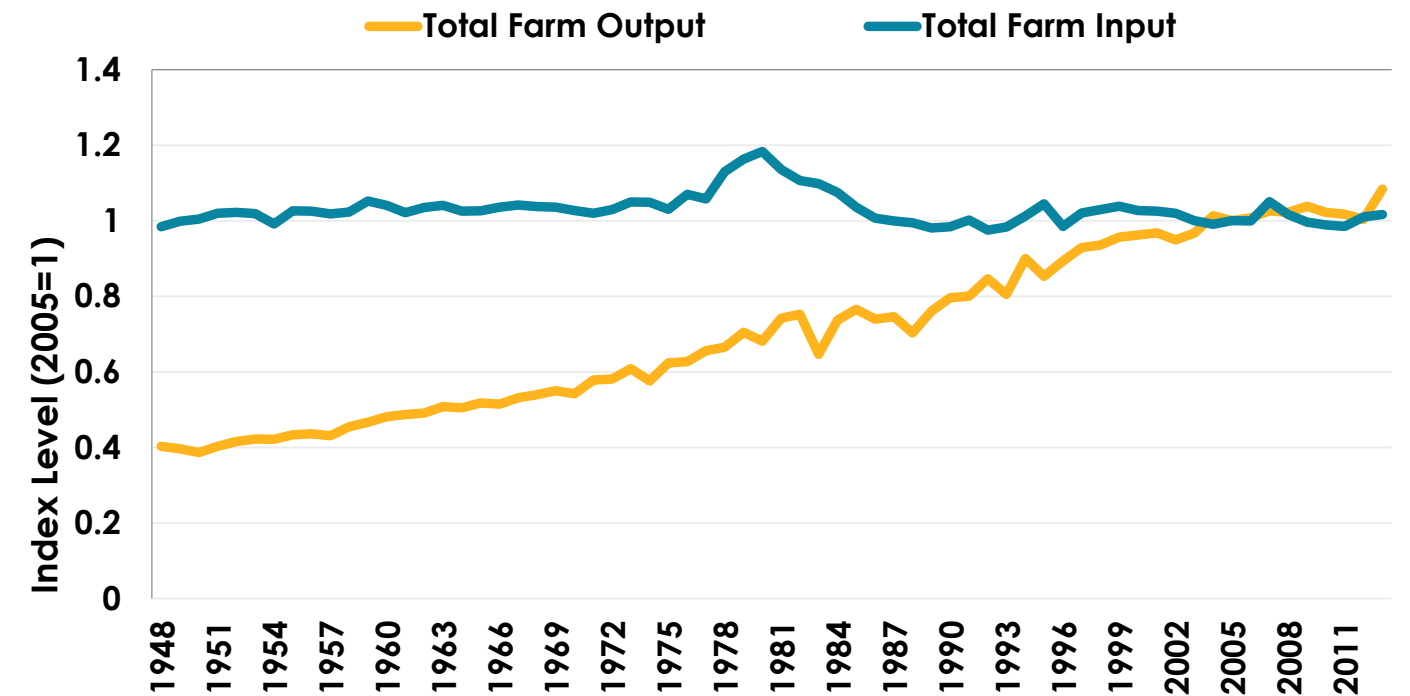
inspects shipments and ensures that those certificates are present."

However, less than two percent of all imported food coming into this country is inspected; for some consumers that is a concern and for others, not so much. Nigh emphasized that food coming into this country is safe for consumption based on the requirements set forth by the USDA and other governing agencies in charge of public health.

But more and more consumers are looking toward locally grown goods to fill their food needs as evident in the growth of farmers' markets and other venues that feature locally grown commodities.

To maintain that market and the more than 80 percent of an individual's food requirements which come from U.S. farms, producers have become more efficient and have done so in a nation that perhaps has the most stringent regulations

Indices of Farm Output for the United States, 1948-2013



AFBF FARM BUREAU®

Source: USDA ERS

regarding food production of any country in the world.

With advanced technology and sound production practices, American farmers have been able to produce for the food industry here, the energy requirements for bio-fuels and for international trade and doing it with fewer of them.

Data from USDA Economic Research Service backs up what we know to be true with data. Nigh highlighted that total U.S. farm output increased 169 percent between 1948 and 2013, while total farm inputs have basically stayed steady, increasing only three percent over the same time period.

While the ag industry recognizes the value in these production practices, consumers are often misled with marketing campaigns designed more to sell a particular product rather than disseminate sound information based on science.

Andrew Walmsley, AFBF Director of Congressional Relations takes this message to Capitol Hill. "Innovation

continues to be paramount for farmers and ranchers," he said. "It is through these advances that farmers will be able to meet the challenges of the future while also sustainably transitioning their farms to the next generation."

As the population grows and as the need for domestically grown food increases, it's important to get correct information out to consumers so they may make a sound choice no matter the choice when it comes to their food.

But consumers should also note

that if we don't grow it here, it will have to be grown somewhere else. Walmsley points out, "We live in abundant times, where most consumers are affluent enough to dictate how their food is grown. That is beautiful for both consumer and farmer, but we can't take for granted what got us here; sound science and productive practices. Farmers must stay vigilant to make sure all growing systems are available to meet future demands."

ATTENTION MOBILE HOME OWNERS

PERMA-ROOF® **LIFETIME WARRANTY**
from Southern Builders

REDUCED ELECTRIC BILL **INCREASED HOME VALUE**

NO MORE ROOF RUMBLE **STOP LEAKS**
EXPERT INSTALLATION

INSURANCE CREDIT

Since 1983
roofover.com
800.633.8969

BBB ASK ABOUT ENERGY STAR

Understanding the Farm Bill

And why it's important to everyone



ROCK SOLID VALUE

on a quality John Deere tractor.

STARTING AT **\$99**/Month*
TRACTOR ONLY

INDUSTRY-LEADING
6-YEAR
POWERTRAIN WARRANTY*
ON ALL COMPACT UTILITY TRACTORS

Get the job done with rugged and ready John Deere E Series tractors with engines ranging from 22 hp to 135 hp.* They're built tough to take on just about any task around your farm, ranch, jobsite or property. Expect comfort, convenience and John Deere reliability! And at only \$99 a month, it's as comfortable on your wallet as it is to operate.

GET YOUR QUOTE AT
LIMESTONEFLW.COM

1-877-542-5359

CAMPBELLVILLE ... 1505 New Columbia Rd(270) 465-5439	SHELBYVILLE 102 Taylorsville Rd.....(502) 633-1515
LOUISVILLE 9812 Vista Hills Blvd.....(502) 239-8484	SOMERSET 5670 South Hwy 27.....(606) 561-5326
FLORENCE 10011 Sam Neace Dr.....(859) 538-1600	DANVILLE 1401 Minor Road.....(859) 236-8500
DEMOSVILLE 3375 Hwy 491.....(859) 472-2246	SPRINGFIELD 2934 Highway 555 North ... (859) 336-7100
ELIZABETHTOWN 801 New Glendale Rd (270) 769-2341	

*Offer valid on new 1023E Compact Tractor purchases made between 3/1/2017 and 5/1/2017. Subject to approved installment credit with John Deere Financial. Up to a 20% down payment may be required. Example: based on a purchase of \$10,405 with \$2,081 down payment, monthly payment of \$99 at 0% APR for 84 months. Taxes, freight, set up and delivery charges could increase the monthly payment. Price and model availability vary by dealer. Valid only at participating US dealers. †Beginning 1/1/2016 all Compact Utility Tractors purchased new from an authorized John Deere Dealer come standard with a 6 year/2000 hour (whichever comes first) Powertain Warranty. See the Limited Warranty for New John Deere Turf & Utility Equipment at dealer for details. *Manufacturer's estimate of power (ISO) per 97/68/EC.



As discussions about the 2018 Farm Bill begin around the country and on Capitol Hill, Title VII, specifically known as the Research, Extension, and Related Matters Title, will not likely get much attention outside of the agriculture arena.

But the money that has been put forth for research and extension endeavors has paid big dividends to the farm community as well as the general public.

Dean Nancy Cox of the University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment said there are many ways in which the research touches the consumer every day.

“This research affects what the consumer pays for food. It also affects whether their food is safe and people want to know their food is safe for their children,” she said. “Research also helps to preserve wildlife, the environment and recreational uses of our lands.”

As important as research is on so many fronts, funding has not always kept up with the need.

The House Agriculture Committee's Subcommittee on Biotechnology, Horticulture, and Research recently held a hearing about the importance of research in the agriculture industry. Agriculture Committee Chairman K. Michael Conaway from Texas said investments in agricultural research have led to extraordinary gains in productivity over the past century.

“While the United States has been, and should remain, the leader

in cutting-edge agricultural research, public funding for agricultural research has been on the decline,” he added. “While the private-sector is offsetting part of those losses, private-sector research often depends on the fundamental research supported by public investment. If the U.S. is going to remain competitive going forward, we must continue making key investments in our agricultural research system and we must look for ways to do that in the most efficient manner possible.”

Much of the research endeavors come by way of university programs. Tony Brannon, Dean of Murray State University's Hutson School of Agriculture said funding for these programs is indeed important to postsecondary programs.

“From a regional university standpoint, I feel like the research, particularly the university research that is sponsored through the federal Farm Bill, is imperative for modern day agriculture,” he said. “It has allowed us to develop agriculture to the point that we are today.”

Brannon emphasized that in creating enough food for a growing world population and remaining the safest food supply in the world, it is only with the help of research that makes those things possible.

“The research that comes with the Farm Bill is not just for provision, it's for protection. I think the general public would be amazed at the amount of research that is required before any chemical hits the market or before new any crop production is approved. It usually goes through years and years of development and research to make sure it's going to be productive but also safe.”

Working together

Brannon noted that while much of the research at the university level is conducted through graduate studies, undergraduate research also holds much value for the students and ultimately the industry.

Many of the students at MSU enter into internships with various industry partners to gain valuable insight into careers. Brannon said that type of learning is often just as valuable as being in the lab or classroom. He also pointed out the value of collaboration between universities.

“We involve as many students as we can and while we are not totally based on research at MSU, we do a bit of practical research and we have been heavily involved with the University of Kentucky in their soybean and dark tobacco research programs which has been historic,” he said.

Brannon also said that much of the research done at the college comes through partnerships with the industry itself helping provide a research laboratory of sorts for those industries and giving students a look at real-world work experiences.

While the funding aspect of research is important, partnerships, whether it is between schools or the industry itself, are also critical.

“One of the real pushes of the Farm Bill is how to take limited funding and make maximum use of it and that is done cooperatively,” said Brannon.

Funding for research

While it would be hard to dispute the value research plays in the agriculture industry, funding has not always been

easy to come by and much of it comes by way of discretionary funding that has to be voted on each year by the Appropriations Committee. UK's Cox said if you look at some of the recent U.S. Department of Agriculture Economic Research Service reports, the progress in improving productivity is slowing down and federal funding for agriculture research has been flat for 20 years.

But the industry is getting a great return on investment. According to the USDA, “Studies have shown that every dollar invested in agricultural research now returns over \$20 to our economy.”

The current federal budget proposal addresses funding for the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative (AFRI), which was established by the 2008 Farm Bill and is the nation's premier competitive, peer-reviewed grants program for fundamental and applied agricultural sciences.

The 2017 Budget proposal calls for a total investment of \$700 million for AFRI, the fully authorized funding level established by Congress in the 2008 Farm Bill.

BEING READY FOR
TOMORROW STARTS TODAY.

NEW HOLLAND AGRICULTURE NEW HOLLAND CONSTRUCTION

READY 'N ROLLING!

SALES EVENT

0% FINANCING*, CASH BACK AND MORE!

Are you ready for the season ahead? Get Ready 'n Rolling today with the machines you need to handle all the chores on your to-do list. Take advantage of our great New Holland equipment offers, including **0% Financing***, **Cash Back and more!**

Stop by today or visit readyandrolling.newholland.com for more details. Don't wait! Offers ends June 30, 2017.

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

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

RICHMOND
NORTHSIDE EQUIPMENT CO.
859-623-5167

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

*For Commercial use only. Customer participation subject to credit qualification and approval by CNH Industrial Capital America LLC. See your participating New Holland dealer for details and eligibility requirements. Down payment may be required. Offers good through June 30, 2017 at participating New Holland dealers in the United States. Not all customers or applicants may qualify for this rate or term. CNH Industrial Capital America LLC standard terms and conditions apply. Taxes, freight, set-up, delivery, additional options or attachments not included in price. Offers subject to change or cancellation without notice. © 2017 CNH Industrial Capital America LLC. All rights reserved. New Holland Agriculture is a trademark registered in the United States and many other countries, owned by or licensed to CNH Industrial N.V., its subsidiaries or affiliates. CNH Industrial Capital and New Holland Construction are trademarks in the United States and many other countries, owned by or licensed to CNH Industrial N.V., its subsidiaries or affiliates.



Mitchell Tolle reads to elementary school children "The Most Wonderful Dream."

Kentucky School Children Experiencing "The Most Wonderful Dream"

During this year's Ag Literacy Week activities, many students across the state got the chance to hear a one-of-a-kind story about farming in Kentucky. Mitchell Tolle, a well-known artist and author from the Commonwealth created the book, "The Most Wonderful Dream" especially for Kentucky Farm Bureau (KFB).

The book is the first accurate ag book produced specifically about the Bluegrass State farms and is a collaborative effort between Tolle, KFB and Farm Credit Mid-America that highlights the true value of the Kentucky farmer. Tolle wrote and painted all the art work for the book. He said he grew up in rural Kentucky surrounded by farmers and hardworking people who need the kind of advocacy Farm Bureau provides.

"I wrote this book to help children

value hard work, but also to help children appreciate the nobility of farmers," he said. "I am a dreamer. I'm not just a dreamer, I am a dreamer that grew up and lived his dream. I want kids to know that is possible."

Kentucky Farm Bureau has spearheaded sales of this book with the goal to have the book read to every elementary school-aged child in Kentucky.

Scott Christmas, Director, Women & Agriculture Education Programs, took a leadership in role developing the book.

"Kentucky has wanted its own accurate ag book for years," he said. "An incredible group of people came together to make it a reality. I can't thank Farm Credit Mid-America and Mitchell Tolle enough. County Farm Bureau Women's Committees have seen the vision of how this book can

impact children in their communities and are taking on the responsibility of getting the book into classrooms and read to children. I believe this book will have an impact on generations of Kentucky families. I am so glad to be a part of something so meaningful."

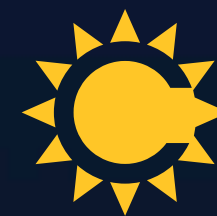
Thousands of copies of the book have been sold, many being donated to classrooms and libraries throughout Kentucky. The book is now available online at Amazon.com. To purchase a copy of the book, visit: kyfb.com/dream.

A story about Mitchell Tolle and his inspiration for writing "The Most Wonderful Dream" will air on KET the week of July 8, during an episode of Kentucky Farm Bureau's Bluegrass & Backroads. The show will also air on RFD-TV beginning on July 12. Check local listings for broadcast times.

* participating co-ops only

The Sun
shines bright
on my old Kentucky
home

solar power from your local electric cooperative



Cooperative Solar

Kentucky's Touchstone Energy® Cooperatives 

www.cooperativesolar.com



Stop and Buy Local

KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU'S 2017 CERTIFIED ROADSIDE FARM MARKETS

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

WEST KENTUCKY

Madisonville	Blue Boy Lawn, Landscaping & Garden Center 270-821-7476
Kuttawa	Broadbent Gourmet Market & Deli broadbenthams.com 270-388-0609
Madisonville	Brumfield Farm Market brumfieldfarmmarket.com 270-821-2721
Morgantown	Cardwell Family Farm 270-999-0976
Henderson	Cates Farm catesfarmky.com 270-823-6150
Owensboro	Cecil Farms Produce CecilFarmsPD.com 270-929-1445
Sturgis	Country Fresh Meats & Farmers Market countryfreshsturgis.com 270-333-0280
Bremen	Father's Country Ham fatherscountryhams.com 270-525-3554
Calhoun	Happy Hollow Farms 270-499-3774
Uniontown	Jim David Meats premiumkentuckyfarms.com 270-822-4866
Salem	Lola Nursery & Produce, LLC 270-704-1557
Madisonville	Metcalfe Landscaping 270-821-0350
Eddyville	P & H Cattle Company pandhcattleco.com 270-625-0610
Russellville	Poore's Nursery & Farms 270-542-4828
Owensboro	Reid's Orchard reidorchard.com 270-685-2444
Madisonville	Rooster's Beef Sales, LLC roostersbeef.com 270-836-8250

Elkton	The Country Barn 270-885-4843
Owensboro	The Market @ Hill View Farms Meats, LLC hillviewfarmsmeats.com 270-929-0558
Owensboro	Trunnell's Farm Market & Deli trunnellsfarmmarket.com 270-733-2222
Utica	Trunnell's Farm Market & Family Fun-Acre trunnellsfarmmarket.com 270-733-2222
Herndon	Zook's Produce
SOUTH CENTRAL KENTUCKY	
Richmond	Baldwin Farms baldwinfarmsky.com 859-582-5785
Woodburn	Berrylicious Orchard 270-392-0211
Somerset	Burnett Farms 606-679-4030
Bowling Green	Chaney's Dairy Barn & Restaurant chaneysdairybarn.com 270-843-5567
Danville	Chateau Du Vieux Corbeau Winery/Old Crow Farm Winery oldcrowinn.com 859-236-1775
Elizabethtown	Crawford Farms crawfordpumpkins.com 615-574-8470
Somerset	D & F Farms 606-382-5214
Horse Cave	Dennison's Roadside Market 270-786-1663
Harrodsburg	Devine's Farm & Corn Maze devinescornmaze.com 859-613-3489
Corbin	Double Hart Farm 606-523-0465
Scottsville	Habegger's Amish Market 270-618-5676

Somerset	Hail's Farm 606-274-0011
Nancy	Haney's Appledale Farm haneysappledalefarm.com 606-636-6148
Columbia	Heavenly Haven Farm & Ziplines hhfarmfun.com 270-465-9597
Hodgenville	Hinton's Orchard & Farm Market hintonsorchard.com 270-325-3854
Elizabethtown	Hinton's Orchard & Farm Market- Elizabethtown hintonsorchard.com 270-360-0644
Bowling Green	Jackson's Orchard & Nursery, Inc. jacksonsorchard.com 270-781-5303
Woodburn	Just Piddlin' Farm justpiddlinfarm.com 270-542-6769
Austin	Kenny's Farmhouse Cheese kennyscheese.com 270-434-4124
Brownsville	Mammoth Cave Transplants mammothcavetransplants.net 270-597-2533
Guston	Roberts Family Farm robertsfamilyfarmky.com 270-422-2361
Rockfield	Rock'n B Horse Carriage Farm rocknbhorsecarriage.com 270-792-3838
Franklin	Ruby Branch Farms 270-776-4672
Springfield	Serano Alpacas & Yarns seranoalpacas.com 208-699-8570
Elizabethtown	The Pumpkin Wagon thepumpkinwagon.com 270-401-3865
Greensburg	Tracey's Taters & Maters traceystaters.com 270-299-1148
Greensburg	Triple 'D' Greenhouses, Produce & Variety Shoppe 270-299-5889
Clarkson	VanMeter Family Farm 270-242-9056

NORTH CENTRAL KENTUCKY

Dry Ridge	Alpine Hills Dairy Tour/ Country Pumpkins countrypumpkinsky.com 859-906-9656
Lexington	Antioch Daylily Garden antiochdaylilygarden.com 859-806-5458
Owenton	Ayres Family Orchard ayresapples.com 504-514-1594
Winchester	Beech Springs Farm Market 859-744-2868
Georgetown	Bi-Water Farm & Greenhouse, LLC biwaterfarm.com 502-863-3676
Versailles	Boyd Orchards boydorchards.com 859-873-3097
Bedford	Bray Fruit 502-255-7296
Bedford	Bray Orchards & Roadside Market brayorchards.com 502-255-3607
Owenton	Chappell Farms Produce 502-593-5500
Shepherdsville	Country Corner Greenhouse & Nursery, Inc. countrycornergreenhouse.com 502-955-8635
Burlington	Eagle Bend Alpacas eaglebendalpacas.com 859-750-3560
Georgetown	Evans Orchard and Cider Mill evansorchard.com 502-863-2255
Shelbyville	Gallrein Farms gallreinfarms.com 502-633-4849
Lexington	Golden Apple Fruit Market 859-273-8629
Hebron	McGlasson Farms mcglassonfarms.com 859-689-5229
Ewing	McLean's AeroFresh Fruit 606-782-1112

Sparta	Michels Family Farm 859-643-2511
Frankfort	Millville Community Market 859-873-9772
Sulphur	Morgan's Run Pumpkin Patch & Corn Maze Market morgansrunky.com 502-743-0300
Louisville	Morrison's Greenhouse 502-969-0675
Shelbyville	Mulberry Orchard, LLC mulberryorchardky.com 502-655-2633
Paris	Reed Valley Orchard reedvalleyorchard.com 859-987-6480
Frankfort	Sage Garden Café at Wilson Nurseries wilsonnurseriesky.com 502-352-2725
LaGrange	Sherwood Acres Beef sherwoodacresbeef.com 502-222-4326
Jeffersontown	Sunny Acres Farm sunnyacresfarmky.com 502-727-9536
Maysville	The Garden on 68, LLC 606-584-4613
Brooksville	The Greenhouse in Gertrude 606-782-0033
Jeffersontown	Tower View Farm & Nursery 502-267-2066
Georgetown	Triple J Farm triplejfarm.org 502-863-6786
Frankfort	Wilson Nurseries, Inc.- Frankfort wilsonnurseriesky.com 502-223-1488
Lexington	Wilson Nurseries, Inc.- Lexington wilsonnurseriesky.com 859-269-5795
Goshen	Woodland Farm Store woodlandfarm.com 502-222-7051

EAST KENTUCKY

Cumberland	Appletree 606-589-5735
Beattyville	Country Garden Greenhouse 606-424-9379
West Liberty	Fannin's Vegetables 606-743-BEAN
Hindman	Golden Apple Fruit Market 606-785-4891
Whitesburg	Golden Apple Fruit Market 606-633-9763
Hazard	Holiday Farm & Garden hollidayfarmandgarden.com 606-436-2635
Greenup	Imel's Greenhouse 606-473-1708
Louisa	Kentucky Roots 606-686-3276
Jeffersonville	Townsend's Sorghum Mill & Farm Market townsendsorghummill.com 859-498-4142

Call or Email today for your free Certified Roadside Market Directory:

roadside@KYFB.com | 502-495-5000 | download KYFB App or visit kyfb.com/roadside



2016 Annual Crop Summary from the USDA National Agricultural Statistics Service

CHRISTIAN, UNION AND GRAVES LEAD STATE IN CORN PRODUCTION

Christian was the top producing corn county in Kentucky for the 2016 crop season. During 2016, Christian County produced 15,166,000 bushels of corn from 83,000 acres harvested for grain with a yield of 182.7 bushels per acre. Union County was second in production with 13,070,000 bushels followed by Graves County with 11,575,000 bushels. Other counties with ten million bushels of production or more included Daviess, Logan and Union. The highest yielding county was Cumberland with 187.7 bushels per acre. Corn for grain production was estimated at 223 million bushels, down one percent from the previous crop. Yield is estimated at 159 bushels per acre, down 13 bushels from the 2015 level. Acres for harvest as grain are estimated at 1.40 million acres, up 90,000 acres from 2015.

GRAVES, DAVIESS AND CHRISTIAN TOP SOYBEAN PRODUCING COUNTIES

Graves County was the leading soybean production county in Kentucky with 4,778,000 bushels of soybeans. Production came from 95,200 acres harvested with a yield of 50.2 bushels per acre. Daviess County was second in production with 4,383,000 bushels followed by Christian County with 4,030,000 bushels. Meade County was the highest yielding county with 56.5 bushels per acre.

Soybean production was estimated at 89.0 million bushels, up slightly from 2015. Yield was estimated at 50 bushels per acre, up 1.0 bushel from a year ago. Acreage for harvest as beans

is estimated at 1.78 million acres, down 30,000 acres from the previous year.

CHRISTIAN, LOGAN AND TODD WERE THE TOP THREE WHEAT COUNTIES

Christian County produced 5,498,000 bushels of winter wheat and was the leading wheat producing county in Kentucky during the 2016 crop season. Yield for the county averaged 88.0 bushels per acre with production harvested from 67,000 acres. Logan County was second in production with

3,822,000 bushels while Todd County was third with 2,838,000 bushels. Warren County was the top yielding county with 90.1 bushels per acre. Winter wheat production was estimated at 32.0 million bushels, down slightly from the 2015 crop. Farmers harvested 400,000 acres for grain. Yield was estimated at a record high 80.0 bushels per acre, up 7 bushels from last year.

****Note**** County rankings above based only on published counties

MORE HAY IN A DAY.



BPX9000 Bale Processor



7040 Disc Mower



VR Series Wheel Rakes



TE Series Tedders

Vermeer forage equipment is built tough and known for dependability and value among hay producers who want consistency and smooth performance in a variety of crops and conditions. Designed for ease of operation and with quick, simple adjustments, Vermeer forage equipment gives operators the power to maximize the hours in a day.



EQUIPPED TO DO MORE.

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

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

RICHMOND
NORTHSIDE EQUIPMENT CO.
859-623-5167

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

COUNTY CORNER

Snapshots of County Farm Bureau activities



LYON COUNTY

Lyon County Farm Bureau donates to Ellis Memorial Greenhouse Fund.



CHRISTIAN COUNTY

The Food Check-out Week display from Christian County farm Bureau.



WOLFE COUNTY

Wolfe County Farm Bureau leaders serving breakfast to local leaders within the community.



BARREN COUNTY

Barren County Farm Bureau held a Legislative Appreciation Meeting on February 4 at the Barren county Cleveland Avenue office in Glasgow. Pictured left to right standing are State Representative Steve Riley and State Senator David Givens.



MARTIN COUNTY

President Sonny Ward and board member, L.T. Preece presented checks to Martin County Family Resource Centers for the backpack program in recognition of Food Check-Out Week.

Markets

KENTUCKY'S 2016 CROP VALUES MOSTLY LOWER

Four of the five principal crops produced in Kentucky experienced decreases in value for the 2016 crop year compared to the 2015 crop year, according to USDA-NASS's Kentucky Field Office. Soybean was the only crop which increased in value – going from \$819.5 million in 2015 to \$881.1 million for the 2016 crop. The 7.5 percent gain in value was primarily due to farmers receiving \$9.90 per bushel compared to \$9.24 per bushel in 2015 – a 7.1 percent gain. For 2016, soybeans knocked corn out of the “highest valued crop” spot as Kentucky's corn crop was valued at \$823.6 million dollars, down 5.8 percent from 2015. Corn's decline in value was primarily due to price – falling 4.6 percent from \$3.88 in 2015 to \$3.70 in 2016. The third most valuable crop in Kentucky was All Hay (baled) at \$674.3 million, down 1.9 percent from 2015. This resulted from a combined 0.7 percent gain in the average price (\$137 per ton) and a 1.9 percent drop in production (alfalfa accounted for 89,000 tons of the total 109,000 ton production loss). In fourth place was All Tobacco at \$283.3 million which is nearly 11 percent less than the value of the 2015 crop. While the average tobacco price dropped two percent to \$2.079 per pound, production declined by nine percent to 136.3 million pounds. Wheat remained in fifth place at \$144.0 million, but ranked first in having

the largest percentage drop in value for 2016 at 15.7 percent. Production changed only slightly, but price fell 15.4 percent to \$4.50 per bushel.

U.S. AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS AND IMPORTS GROWING

In the latest “Outlook for U.S. Agricultural Trade”, USDA raised projections for fiscal year 2017 (FY2017) exports and imports by \$2.0 billion each, resulting in an unchanged trade balance of \$21.5 billion. FY2017 agricultural exports were raised to \$136.0 billion largely due to expected increases in livestock, poultry, and dairy exports. Strong foreign demand and higher prices help boost those exports by \$1.6 billion – beef up \$500 million to \$5.8 billion, pork up \$300 million to \$5.0 billion, and dairy up \$200 million to \$5.5 billion. Grain and feed exports are forecast down \$1.0 billion to \$28.6 billion. Oilseed and product exports are forecast at \$31.6 billion, up \$600 million as strong soybean prices more than offset reduced soybean meal exports. Soybean export value is projected at \$22.6 billion, compared to \$4.0 billion for soybean meal. In previous FY2016, exports are estimated at \$129.7 billion.

U.S. agricultural imports in fiscal year 2017 are forecast at \$114.5 billion. If this is realized, ag imports will set a new record high, exceeding FY2015's 114.2 billion. Horticultural product imports lead the increase and are expected to

reach a new record of \$54.4 billion. FY2016 imports are estimated at \$113.1 billion.

HONEY PRODUCTION STEADY IN KENTUCKY

Kentucky honey production in 2016 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 230,000 pounds, unchanged from 2015. There were 5000 colonies, unchanged from 2015. Honey harvested per colony averaged 46.0 pounds, the same as 2015's yield. Producer honey stocks on December 15, 2016, were 48,000 pounds, down 7,000 pounds from a year earlier. U.S. honey production in 2016 from producers with five or more colonies totaled 162 million pounds, up three percent from 2015. There were 2.78 million colonies from which honey was harvested in 2016, up four percent from 2015. Yield of honey harvested per colony averaged 58.3 pounds, down one percent from 2015. It's interesting that the three states producing the most honey are up north – North Dakota, South Dakota and Montana.

Kentucky honey prices decreased two cents per pound during 2016 to 402.0 cents per pound. U.S. honey prices in 2016 averaged 207.5 cents per pound, down 0.8 cents from 2015. Prices vary widely depending on the honey's color class. Honey price set a record high in 2014 of 217.3 cents per pound.



Down the Backroads

By Tim Thornberry

I think most of us, including myself, have learned to depend on others to accommodate many of our needs, especially when it comes to food. But there was a time when we produced a great deal of food for ourselves by way of a family garden.

It was a recent trip to a farmers' market that made me think about the times my family raised a garden next to our house. It supplied us with fresh produce for most of the spring and summer months and what we couldn't eat straight from the garden, my mother would can so we could enjoy it throughout the winter months.

It wasn't a novelty back then but more of a necessity. It wasn't that we liked to work tirelessly to ensure a good “harvest,” we liked to eat! It was more important than anything that we had plenty of food on our table according to my father. He grew up during the Great Depression when there generally was not enough to go around in his family of eight children.

So we raised a garden and what a garden it was. With tomatoes and potatoes, corn and peppers, lettuce and cabbage and green beans, it was the most beautiful garden you could imagine. When my Dad wasn't looking, I'd climb through the pole beans and I would hide from my brother and sister in the corn stalks and I'd wait quietly for hours to get a chance to chase a rabbit from the garden. My father strung up a collection of aluminum pie pans on tobacco sticks to help ward off the wildlife. When the wind blew those pie tins made such a loud, clanging noise. The funny thing about it was, the rabbits soon got used to it and stayed despite the racket.

That garden seemed to grow forever even once the corn stalks had been tied together and the poles were laid to rest for the season. You could

still see the outline of the plowed ground and the remnants of the last of the tomato plants and if we were lucky, a couple of left over rotten ones we kids could throw at each other.

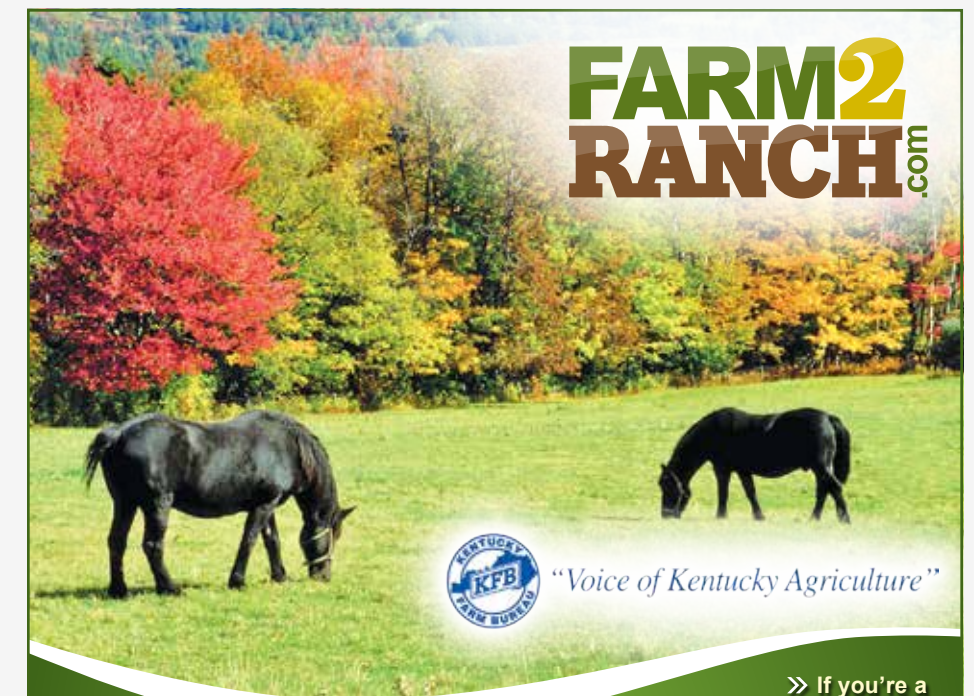
I can't remember loving something so much. It became part of our lives. It was the best food I have ever had.

It served so many needs besides feeding our family. It was a place to play and work; a place to watch in wonderment. I remember walking behind my Dad covering the seeds with dirt he had dropped; how could those little seeds become all that? We'd pray for rain then wished it would stop if we got too much. I could almost see it grow outside my bedroom window. And on nights

when I was supposed to be asleep I'd watch it under the moonlight.

How it shined in the night under a full moon with the occasional sound of those old pie plates. It was like a lullaby. I remember it as though it was last night. I can taste the beans and potatoes and feel the tomato juice run down my chin and I can see my father again walking in front of me dropping the seeds that would become our feast.

When it's time to plant again, we should let our children cover the seeds we plant and encourage them to watch that garden grow from their bedroom windows. It will serve them better than some of their electronic devices as they make their way down the backroads.



CLASSIFIEDS

Sign up at **Farm2Ranch.com** and place your free classified ad, visit the business directory, check out news & so much more.

» If you're a Kentucky Farm Bureau Member register for your FREE classified ad with a FREE photo! Learn more at kyfb.com/federation/member-benefits/

Per Capita Disappearance of Red Meats and Poultry on a Retail Basis



Source: Livestock, Dairy, and Poultry Outlook, ERS-USDA, March 15, 2017

Soybean/Corn Price Relationship



Statement from KFB President Mark Haney

With the discovery of avian influenza (AI) in West Kentucky, it's important to get ahead of such a situation and get solid, factual information to the general public. So much misinformation can make its way to the airwaves, so getting the facts out is vital to our top agriculture commodity.

This discovery comes on the heels of AI findings in Tennessee, Alabama and Wisconsin. The strain found in Kentucky is known as H7N9 low pathogenic avian influenza and was found in a commercial poultry flock located in Christian County.

So far the affected areas in all of the states concerned are confined to a few operations and much as yet to be determined in the testing of these premises. Kentucky State Veterinarian Robert C. Stout said the National Veterinary Services Laboratory in Ames, Iowa confirmed the finding on the premises here and also said there were no clinical signs of disease in the birds.

Kentucky agriculture is proud of the poultry industry in this state. It has grown to be worth more than a billion dollars each year. With that said, we have many bio-security measures in place to combat situations such as this. It's important to know that these safety measures on American poultry farms are some of the most stringent in the world. Our animals are our livelihood and farmers will do all they can to protect their flocks.

But even with all those safety procedures, we see that AI can still pop up. What we must do now is support those who are working diligently to ensure this discovery is confined to as small of an area as possible. Any case of avian influenza is one too many and our poultry producers do all they can on a daily basis to keep poultry facilities free of disease.

As consumers, we must understand that AI rarely poses a threat to our food system, to humans or our pets. Currently, the USDA is working to determine if any other farms near the affected areas have any signs of the bird flu, something that is always normal procedure when AI is found.

Our poultry industry works closely with the Kentucky Department of Agriculture (KDA) and the State Veterinarian's Office to ensure safety of our birds, our workers and most of all, our consumers.

Agriculture Commissioner Ryan Quarles said Dr. Stout's office has an excellent working relationship with the Kentucky Poultry Federation (KPF) and the poultry industry and they are uniquely qualified to contain this outbreak so our domestic customers and international trading partners can remain confident in Kentucky poultry.

We support Dr. Stout's office, KDA and the KPF in their efforts to do all they can to make sure our other poultry facilities don't incur any more disease problems.

We also support our counterparts in other affected states as officials there work to remedy this situation and move forward with the mission of our poultry industry; to provide the best quality poultry products in the world.

Dr. Stout encourages poultry producers and bird owners to take biosecurity measures to protect their birds from AI and other diseases including:

Keep your distance – Isolate your birds from visitors and other birds.

Keep it clean – Prevent germs from spreading by cleaning shoes, tools and equipment.

Don't haul disease home – Clean vehicles and cages.

Don't borrow from your neighbor – Avoid sharing tools and equipment with neighbors.

Know the signs – Watch for early signs to prevent the spread of disease.

Report sick birds – Report unusual signs of disease or unexpected deaths to the Office of the Kentucky State Veterinarian at (502) 573-0282, option 3, or through USDA's toll-free number at 1-866-536-7593.

For more information on this discovery, go <http://tinyurl.com/knqjozd>.

For more information about Kentucky's poultry industry, go to <http://www.kypoultry.org>.

Mark Haney
President
Kentucky Farm Bureau



UK training helps farmers learn how to assess wheat freeze damage

Slowly and methodically, farmers cut into wheat plants under the guidance of University of Kentucky College of Agriculture, Food and Environment specialists. To the farmers, this exercise to reveal tillers still inside the stem was more than a scientific procedure. It gave them tools to help them assess potential freeze damage to their crop and make a decision on what to do next.

The plant dissection was just one of the topics covered during the Emergency Wheat Freeze Damage Training coordinated by Edwin Ritchey, UK soil extension specialist, and other members of UK's Wheat Science Group in response to frigid temperatures March 14-16. It is the first significant freeze Kentucky wheat growers have faced in some time. Similar freeze events occurred in 2012 and 2007.

"We wanted to have this meeting before a lot of damage was showing in the field, so farmers know how to determine whether they have a lot of injury," Ritchey said. "We also gave them information that should give them a pretty good idea of how to proceed once they are able to assess their level of damage and have a well-informed conversation with their insurance adjuster."

Typically a freeze this early in the season would not have caused alarm. However, due to the mild winter, much

of the area's wheat was in an advanced growth stage and more susceptible to freeze damage. Farmers from five states packed a meeting room at the UK Research and Education Center, and many others tuned in online, to hear UK specialists cover several aspects of freeze damage, potential situations and options as a result of the weather event.

One of the farmers in attendance was Don Halcomb, who grows wheat, barley and rye in Logan County.

"We had different planting dates so our growth stages were all over the place, but we had a lot at Feekes 6, which is where you would expect some damage," he said.

Carrie Knott, UK grain crops extension specialist, led farmers through the plant dissection and covered many agronomic aspects of freeze damage. Knott, as well as UK specialists in plant pathology, entomology, economics, soil science, weed science and forages, fielded questions from participants in the room and online.

"We were seeing a lot fewer damaged heads today than I anticipated. On Saturday and Sunday, I was already starting to see damaged wheat heads everywhere I checked in my wheat research plots at the station," Knott said. "The problem now is the stem damage. In the next week or so, we could still have some stem splitting

that could cause those wheat plants to decline and possibly lose yield."

Visible signs of freeze damage do not immediately appear in fields as wheat needs at least five to seven days of temperatures above 40 degrees before damage appears. That may come to many areas of the state before the end of the week.

"Farmers can take this information and apply it in the field in the next two to three days to start making decisions on their wheat fields," said John Grove, director of the UK Research and Education Center. "We hope to have more trainings like this now and in the future, and one of the ways we're hoping to do that is with the UK Grain and Forage Center of Excellence. That includes remodeling this facility to make it even better equipped for these types of trainings and better serve the needs of our clientele across the state and region."

In the training, UK specialists reminded farmers that it is still a waiting game, as it is early in the season, and their yield potential may ride on the weather during the rest of the growing season.

"Nobody really knows how much damage we are going to have," Halcomb said. "In 2007, we had a similar situation, but we had some really good weather from that point forward, and we had a lot better yields than anybody expected. It's a waiting game, but that's farming."



Vickie Bryant of Monroe County is serving in her first year as the State Women's Committee Chair.

2017 KFB Women's Conference

This year's KFB Women's Conference featured an array of workshops, informative speakers and an update on current events from KFB staff and leadership for the more than 200 attendees that made their way to Louisville for the two-day event.

Each year KFB Women's Committees from across the state are represented during the conference. Vickie Bryant of Monroe County is serving in her first year as the State Women's Committee Chair. She said this event offers so many opportunities for those attending.

"We had excellent presenters lined up including nationally known speaker Suzette Brawner and Mitchell Tolle an artist and author who created the book,

'The Most Wonderful Dream,'" she said.

The book is the first accurate ag book created specifically about Kentucky and will be used by Women's Committee members in their endeavors to teach local children about agriculture. Tolle wrote and did all the art work for the book. He said he grew up in rural Kentucky surrounded by farmers and hardworking people who need the kind of advocacy Farm Bureau provides.

Bryant, who has served on the Monroe County FB Board and was the District 4 Women's Chair, also pointed out the presentation made by Mary Courtney, a Shelby County FB member and America's Farm Mom of the Year.

"We also had workshops the ladies attended ranging in subject matter from self-defense to ag literacy, legislative

updates, as well as screening and workshops regarding women's health," she said.

Across the state, Women's Committees participate and support many activities within their local organizations including the Outstanding Farm Bureau Youth, the Variety Contest, agriculture education programs, classroom activities, and leadership learning programs.

"This helps them to go out and become leaders not only in Farm Bureau but also in other organizations," said Bryant. "I think our women play a very important role in Farm Bureau and I think the organization realizes that and appreciates them for all they do."

While many of this year's attendees have been coming to the annual event



Mary Kate Kordes, a state KFB Director from Muhlenberg County gets a copy of the book "The Most Wonderful Dream" autographed by author and Kentucky artist Mitchell Tolle.



Pictured from left to right are Gracie Furnish, Anna Arthur and Kaylea Lemons all from Harrison County and attending their first KFB Women's Conference.

for many years, there were several making their first trip to the conference.

Carly Guinn of Boyle County said this year's event was her first after being asked to be on her county's women's committee.

"We are the next generation to take leadership and learn from the people that came before us; learn how to do, how to expand and to make things better in the agriculture community," she said.

Guinn added that she thinks it important to network with other attendees to learn from them.

Gracie Furnish, from Harrison County, was also attending the conference for the first time by way of an invitation from some of her local county members.

"Having been involved with Farm Bureau at IFAL and through the Outstanding Farm Bureau Youth Program, it's cool to be involved at the next level as a young adult," she said. "I want to take inspiration back after being around all of these awesome women who are a part of and support Kentucky agriculture."

Furnish, who is currently serving

as the Kentucky FFA State Secretary, added that she wants to get ideas of how to continually be involved in serving the agriculture industry.

"I think women play a huge role in agriculture but it takes all of us, both male and female and I think if we see that and can work together, that's how we will be the strongest and make agriculture the best it can be," she said.

KFB First Vice-President Eddie Melton addressed the conference on opening day. He said this year's event, which saw great attendance, is a good place for members to get together and plan for the coming year.

"Our Women's Committees do a great job in all they do including working with our youth programs in getting them involved, the scholarship programs, and the Food Check-Out events, just to name a few," he said. "Being involved in those community based programs is so important to Farm Bureau in staying true to the mission of our grass-roots organization."

**BULK-FILL PLANTING?
WATCH YOUR WEIGHT.**

KINZE 3600 PIVOT FOLD WITH HYDRAULIC WEIGHT TRANSFER

Reduced fill time. Reduced soil compaction. Consistent depth control. That's what you get with the 3600's bulk fill and hydraulic weight transfer. Exclusive air seed delivery system minimizes the chance of bridging or plugging. Balanced split-row design. Optional hydraulic variable drive increases precision and versatility of seed population. Narrow in-line transport for easier maneuverability.

Contact your authorized Kinze dealer or visit Kinze.com/3600.

3600 PIVOT FOLD w/split row option

12 Row 30" / 23 or 24 Row 15"
12 Row 36" / 23 Row 18"
12 Row 38" / 23 Row 19"
16 Row 30" / 31 or 32 Row 15"
16 Twin Row 30"

**BEECH GROVE
WARD IMPLEMENT COMPANY INC.**
270-273-3206
www.wardimplementco.com

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

KINZE
www.kinze.com



\$99 / MO*
1023E COMPACT TRACTOR
6-YEAR
POWERTRAIN
WARRANTY**

SAVE MORE. DO MORE.

Looking for a powerful tool to get all kinds of jobs done around your place? Try a new John Deere 1023E Compact Utility Tractor. Add an iMatch™ Quick Hitch and attaching 3-point implements is a breeze. A Quik-Park™ loader lets you attach and remove the loader in minutes. And the AutoConnect™ Drive-over Mower Deck lets you connect from the seat. Get all this and more, including our 6-Year Powertrain Warranty** starting at just \$99 per month*.

JohnDeere.com/Ag



JOHN DEERE

*Offer valid on new 1023E Compact Tractor purchases made between 3/1/2017 and 5/1/2017. Subject to approved installment credit with John Deere Financial. Up to a 20% down payment may be required. Example: based on a purchase of \$10,405 with \$2,081 down payment, monthly payment of \$99 at 0% APR for 84 months. Taxes, freight, set up and delivery charges could increase the monthly payment. Price and model availability vary by dealer. Valid only at participating US dealers. **All Compact Utility Tractors purchased new from an authorized John Deere Dealer come standard with a 6 year/2000 hour (whichever comes first) Powertrain Warranty. See the Limited Warranty for New John Deere Turf & Utility Equipment at dealer for details.

ADB010ECU2F69571-00034631

WRIGHT IMPLEMENT

BOWLING GREEN
270-781-4747

GLASGOW
270-678-9200

HARDINSBURG
270-756-5152

OWENSBORO
270-683-3606

www.wrightimp.com

HUTSON, INC.

CLINTON
270-248-7003

HOPKINSVILLE
270-248-7003

MAYFIELD
270-248-7003

MORGANFIELD
270-248-7003

PADUCAH
270-248-7003

PRINCETON
270-248-7003

RUSSELLVILLE
270-248-7003

www.hutsoninc.com

Livestock Directory

KENTUCKY PORK PRODUCERS

270-737-5665
email: kypork@bbtel.com
kypork.com

KDDC Kentucky Dairy Development Council

Maury Cox
Executive Director
*Working for Kentucky's
Dairy Farmers*

176 Pasadena Drive
Lexington, KY 40503
Cell: 859-516-1129
Email: kddc@kydairy.org
<http://www.kydairy.org>



NEW SEASON. NEW RIDE.

REBATES
UP TO **\$1,200**

FINANCING
AS LOW AS **2.99%** FOR **36**
MONTHS

BARDSTOWN
JOE HILL'S AUTO CENTER
502-348-2532
www.joehills.com

COLUMBIA
REX'S CYCLE SHOP
270-384-6018
www.rexscycle.com

VISIT POLARIS.COM FOR MORE OFFERS

Restrictions: Offers vary by model. Valid on select 2013-2017 new and unregistered models purchased between 3/1/17-4/30/17. See your dealer for details. Rates as low as 2.99% APR for 36 months. Examples of monthly payments required over a 36-month term at a 2.99% rate: \$29.08 per \$1,000 financed; and at an 5.99% rate: \$30.42 per \$1,000 financed. An example of a monthly payment with \$0 down, no rebate, an APR of 2.99% for 36 months at a MSRP of \$9,999.00 is \$290.74; total cost of borrowing of \$467.60 with a total obligation of \$10,466.60. Down payment may be required. Other financing offers are available. See your local dealer for details. Minimum Amount Financed \$1,500. Other qualifications and restrictions may apply. Financing promotions void where prohibited. Offer subject to change without notice.

Warning: Polaris® off-road vehicles can be hazardous to operate and are not intended for on-road use. Driver must be at least 16 years old with a valid driver's license to operate. Passengers, if permitted, must be at least 12 years old. All riders should always wear helmets, eye protection, and protective clothing. Always use seat belts and cabnets or doors (as equipped). Never engage in stunt driving, and avoid excessive speeds and sharp turns. Riding and alcohol/drugs don't mix. All riders should take a safety training course. Call 800-342-3764 for additional information. Check local laws before riding on trails. ©2017 Polaris Industries Inc.



ORANGE OPPORTUNITY SALES EVENT

Opportunity is knocking—save on Kubota's versatile **M7 Series** ag tractors today!

\$0 Down, 0% A.P.R. Financing for 60 Months*
Offer ends 5/31/17.

BARDSTOWN
JOE HILL'S AUTO CENTER
502-348-2532
www.joehills.com

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

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

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

RICHMOND
NORTHSIDE EQUIPMENT CO.
859-623-5167

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



*\$0 down, 0% A.P.R. financing for up to 60 months on purchases of new Kubota M7 Series equipment is available to qualified purchasers from participating dealers' in-stock inventory through 5/31/2017. Example: A 60-month monthly installment repayment term at 0% A.P.R. requires 60 payments of \$16.67 per \$1,000 financed. 0% A.P.R. interest is available to customers if no dealer documentation preparation fee is charged. Dealer charge for document preparation fee shall be in accordance with state laws. Inclusion of ineligible equipment may result in a higher blended A.P.R. 0% A.P.R. and low-rate financing may not be available with customer instant rebate offers. Financing is available through Kubota Credit Corporation, U.S.A., 1000 Kubota Drive, Grapevine, TX 76051; subject to credit approval. Some exceptions apply. Offer expires 5/31/2017. See us for details on these and other low-rate options or go to www.kubota.com for more information. Optional equipment may be shown.

kubota.com



© Kubota Tractor Corporation, 2017



EXCLUSIVE

\$500

CASH ALLOWANCE¹ FOR ELIGIBLE FARM BUREAU MEMBERS.



HELPING YOU THROUGH EVERY SEASON.

Chevrolet is proud to present this exclusive \$500 offer¹ toward the purchase or lease of most 2016 and 2017 Chevrolet vehicles.



"Voice of Kentucky Agriculture"

FIND **NEW** ROADS[®]

CHEVROLET



¹ Offer available through 5/31/17. Available on most 2016 and 2017 Chevrolet vehicles. Excludes 2016 Equinox L, Colorado 2SA and Spark EV; 2016 Malibu and Traverse L models, Cruze Limited L, Spark, SS and City Express, and 2016 Chevrolet Cruze L model. This offer is not available with some other offers. Only customers who have been active members of an eligible Farm Bureau for a minimum of 30 days will be eligible to receive a certificate. Customers can obtain certificates at www.fbverify.com/gm. Farm Bureau and the FB logo are registered service marks of the American Farm Bureau Federation and are used herein under license by General Motors.

BARDSTOWN
FRANKLIN FAMILY CHEVROLET
502-348-3964
www.donfranklinauto.com

CAMPBELLVILLE
DON FRANKLIN AUTO
270-465-8113
www.donfranklincampbellville.com

CARROLLTON
HERB KINMAN CHEVROLET
502-732-6646
www.KinmanChevy.com

CORBIN
LEGACY CHEVROLET BUICK GMC
606-528-1836
www.legacychevyky.com

ELIZABETHTOWN
HERB JONES CHEVROLET BUICK GMC
800-609-2277
www.herbjoneschevrolet.com

EMINENCE
BROWNING CHEVROLET, INC
800-844-6546
www.thinkgm.com

GEORGETOWN
FRANK SHOOP CHEVROLET-BUICK
CHRYSLER DODGE JEEP RAM
502-863-3727

HARLAN
CREECH CHEVROLET BUICK GMC, INC.
866-573-3530
www.creechchev.com

HAZARD
CARDINAL CHEVROLET BUICK GMC
CADILLAC
606-436-2154
www.cardinalgm.com

LONDON
TINCHER WILLIAMS CHEVROLET-
BUICK-GMC
800-447-1508
tincherwilliamschevrolet.com

PRESTONSBURG
POP'S CHEVROLET BUICK CADILLAC
606-263-1636
www.popschevy.com

SOMERSET
DON FRANKLIN GMC
888-849-7202
www.somersetgm.com



New or Used Vehicle Loans

Now as
low as

2.99%
APR*

36 - Month Term

*Finance and save with a new or
used vehicle loan from
Farm Bureau Bank.*

*We offer competitive rates,
flexible terms and affordable
protection plans - including GAP
and Major Mechanical
Protection*. Experience the
personalized service you deserve.*

To apply, contact your local Farm Bureau Agent or:

 **FARM BUREAU BANK™**

800.492.3276 | farmbureaubank.com

Existing Farm Bureau Bank vehicle loans are excluded from this offer.

* Rates disclosed as Annual Percentage Rate (APR) and are based on acquiring one of the following collateral protection products: Guaranteed Asset Protection (GAP) or Major Mechanical Protection (MMP). Additional discounts do apply for purchasing more than one collateral protection product. The advertised APR of 2.99% is effective as of 02/26/2016. Final APR may differ from the loan interest rate due to additional fees (such as a loan documentation fee, which may be applicable). For a \$25,050 vehicle loan with a term of 36 months, a 45 day first payment date and a 2.99% APR, the monthly payment will be \$727.72. To qualify for the disclosed rate, customer must be a Farm Bureau member. Rates may vary based on the amount financed, term, and first payment date. Finance charges accrue from origination date of the loan. Rates and financing are limited to vehicle models 2006 and newer. All loans are subject to credit approval, verification and collateral evaluation. Other rates and financing options are available. Non-member rates may be 1-3% higher than posted rates. Rates for sport vehicles and commercial vehicles may be higher. This offer is not available in all states and rates and terms are subject to change without notice. Farm Bureau Bank does not finance totaled, rebuilt, or salvaged vehicles. Farm Bureau, FB, and the FB National Logo are registered service marks owned by, and used by Farm Bureau Bank FSB under license from, the American Farm Bureau Federation.

