



VOL. 7, NO. 8

AUGUST 2007

KENTUCKY

F A R M B U R E A U N E W S



KFB DAY AT STATE FAIR IS AUGUST 23



ABOVE: THE "PRIDE OF THE COUNTIES" SECTION IS A BIG DRAW IN THE SOUTH WING.

RIGHT: THE AUCTION OF THE GRAND CHAMPION HAM IS THE CENTERPIECE OF KFB DAY AT THE KENTUCKY STATE FAIR.



Perhaps now more than ever, KFB's annual Kentucky Country Ham Breakfast evokes great anticipation of the bottom line – the winning charity auction bid for the grand champion ham. That's because the last two renditions have seen record-shattering prices: An eye-popping \$340,000 from Republic Bank in 2005 and last year's stunning \$500,000 from First Southern National Bank of Stanford.

Both hams came from Broadbent's B&B Foods, a Cadiz-based company which has had the State Fair's blue ribbon winner five of the past seven years.

The 44th annual breakfast kicks off "KFB Day" at the State Fair on Thursday, August 23. Among the other highlights will be a 50th birthday celebration for "Freddy Farm Bureau," the giant figure who greets fairgoers from his perch on top of bales of straw near the entrance to Freedom Hall. The years continue to be kind to Freddy as he remains one of the Fair's top attractions.

Following the breakfast top gospel groups from across the state will compete in the Gospel Quartet Contest in the South Wing. The top three also will perform at the KFB luncheon on the East Lawn, with the winner announced at that event. Registered

members receive a tasty cookout lunch and have a chance at a multitude of door prizes.

KFB Insurance once again is sponsoring the popular "Pride of the Counties" exhibit in the South Wing. Dozens of booths promoting Kentucky communities and attractions are scattered throughout the exhibit and many offer gifts and prizes to fairgoers. An awards presentation for the top exhibit will be held at 11 a.m. on KFB Day.

KFB Insurance also has a strong presence at that evening's auction of the grand champion and reserve animals exhibited by FFA and 4-H members. The company typically is among those purchasing one of the award-winning steers, hogs or lambs, with part of the proceeds going to the youthful exhibitors.

KFB members also are invited to visit the organization's booth in the South Wing.



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“COMMENT”

Divided government can achieve great success. When one party has controlled Congress and the other the presidency, we’ve tackled tax reform in the 1980s, welfare reform in the 1990s, and education reform in the 2000s.

I had hoped that we in government could do the same this year and produce immigration reform legislation to strengthen border security and allow greater enforcement of workplace hiring laws. So I used my position as Senate Republican Leader to keep the debate moving forward.

But in the end, the Senate came up short.

The Senate’s bill did not command support from a majority of Kentuckians or Americans, nor did it satisfy my goals for reform. So I voted against it, and it went down to defeat.

But an issue that inspired such passion on all sides will surely reappear on our agenda soon. When it does, I intend to stress agriculture’s importance in Kentucky. Our farmers provide for the nation and keep our state’s economy growing. In return, the government owes farmers the opportunity to make a living farming.

I recognize the importance of guest workers in Kentucky agriculture. We should always ensure that Americans are considered first, and guest workers don’t jeopardize opportunities for Americans. But after that, government shouldn’t hinder the use of guest workers when some jobs go unfilled. And our current guest-worker system should be made more efficient.

I also understand the benefit of giving guest workers and legal immigrants secure, tamper-proof ID cards, so farmers feel confident they’re hiring someone who is here legally. Not only will that make life easier for employers, it will increase security for the nation.

I heard from farmers across the state on this issue, and appreciated your views. Now that this national conversation on our broken borders has commanded such attention I hope it will continue. That’s the only way that we’ll be able to solve this problem once and for all.



Mitch McConnell

U.S. SENATOR

ON THE COVER:

SWALLOW RAIL FARM IN SHELBY COUNTY

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

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

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

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KENTUCKY FARM BUREAU NEWS

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	Pioneer Publishing
	Lexington, KY

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THE RACE IS ON

FLETCHER, BESHEAR MEET WITH KFB DIRECTORS

Governor Ernie Fletcher and Democrat challenger Steve Beshear met with KFB's Board of Directors and staff last month to give their views on the organization's key state policy issues. Their second joint campaign appearance attracted a large media contingent from Louisville and Lexington.

Although KFB doesn't have a policy position on casino gambling, the two candidates sparred repeatedly about that controversial issue during the two-hour meeting at the KFB state office.

Governor Fletcher is opposed to expanded gaming, saying it would erode the culture and extract money from many low-income families. Beshear, the Democratic challenger, favors casino gaming at a few Kentucky race-tracks plus a few sites along the border. He argues that Kentucky can't afford to continue losing the tax revenue to bordering states that have casinos.

When the talk turned to KFB policy, Governor Fletcher and former Lt. Governor Beshear had some encouraging words. Both pledged support for House Bill 44 (i.e. limiting the rate of property tax growth), for maintaining the funding level for the state's historic agricultural development initiative, for energy policy that will boost demand for farm commodities, for vocational education and for addressing the deer problem.

They also said they were not interested in raising the tobacco excise tax. And they voiced support for many of the basics of KFB policy such as low taxes, agricultural development, affordable health insurance, better schools and roads and a more efficient and effective government.

message in asking for the votes of KFB members is that he has had a close and productive working relationship with the organization over the years, including on such crucial issues as the 2002 farm bill (while he was in Congress), the state's ag development initiative and the tobacco buyout. He wants KFB

members to be mindful of his continued support for the ag development money, his commitment to energy policy and his administration's expertise to address the health insurance problem.

In his remarks, Beshear said he represents a much-needed change. He asserted that the state has digressed under the current administration in areas such as the unemployment rate, per-capita income, business climate and

health. He stressed "making energy a top priority in economic development activities" and insisted that his economic development focus would be on expanding existing businesses, including an emphasis on value-added agricultural ventures. "It's time to concentrate and invest in our own folks," he said during his opening statement.



GOVERNOR ERNIE FLETCHER MAKES A POINT IN HIS OPENING REMARKS AS CHALLENGER STEVE BESHEAR WAITS FOR HIS TURN TO ADDRESS THE KFB DIRECTORS. KFB PRESIDENT MARSHALL COYLE (LEFT) PRESIDED OVER THE EVENT.

The candidates were given two minutes for opening comments and five minutes for a closing statement. In between, they listened as selected KFB Directors spoke about the organization's policy and then posed questions on the following topics: Agricultural Appropriations, Fiscal Affairs, Environmental and Wildlife Issues, Energy, Health Care, Agricultural Marketing and Education.

Time also was allotted for other questions from the directors.

KFB President Marshall Coyle presided over the meeting.

Governor Fletcher's predominate

Their responses to a questionnaire on the aforementioned issues will be published in a special election guide in the October issue of "All Around Kentucky."

AG OFFICIALS SCRAMBLING

TO FIND SOURCES OF HAY

BY AIMEE NIELSON
UK COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

Experts say the drought is wreaking havoc on Kentucky's pastures and hay fields. Ray Smith, University of Kentucky extension forage specialist, said that most farmers depend on the period from May through June for highest hay production. With the Easter freeze dealing a low blow just prior to that peak time and now the current drought conditions, he said producers are experiencing a "double whammy" and looking at mostly brown fields.

With that in mind, hay is going to be a hot commodity in Kentucky and the thirsty Southeast this year. Even with recent rains in parts of the state, UK College of Agriculture Hay Specialist Tom Keene said he expects demand to be "higher than I can ever remember."

Keene said farmers can expect hay prices to remain high and continue to rise throughout the rest of the year.

"Producers and sellers nationwide are well aware of the situation in Kentucky and other drought-stricken areas," he said. "Producers would be well-served to source their hay early and acquire quantities necessary to carry them through until May of 2008."

Keene said late July prices on midsize square bales of 140 to 150 RFV (relative feed value) hay delivered into Kentucky from outside the state is somewhere between \$140 and \$175 per ton.

"Small square bales of good horse hay are bringing more than \$200 per ton," he continued. "Locally grown round bales are easily bringing \$80 per ton or maybe even more."

In an effort to help Kentucky farmers in this uncertain time, Keene and others at UK are working with representatives of the Kentucky Department of Agriculture to outline a plan of action.

"We have set up a 'hay hotline' where farmers could get information about sourcing or selling hay via a toll-free phone number and via the



Internet," he said. "Listings on the site will give Kentucky hay sellers first priority and then go on to list hay for sale in other states. The site will link to 'hay hotlines' in other states as well as to producers who are aligned with the National Hay Association, the Nebraska Alfalfa Marketing Association, etc."

The number for the hotline is 888-567-9589 and the web site is <http://www.kyagr.com/marketing/forage/HayForageDroughtRelief.htm>. Keene said the effort is a "work in progress." He said KDA will contact the National Hay Association and ask that they make their members aware of Kentucky's need and encourage them to list their hay on the Web site.

"KDA is also going to contact other state departments of agriculture around the country and ask them to let their producers know of our need for hay," Keene said. "Hopefully, state hay organizations and producers nationwide will participate in our effort to help Kentucky farmers 'stretch' their hay inventories for this year. The hay that KDA currently tests will also be linked to this site as you can see when you go there."

Keene said they also hope to have a link on the site in order to help producers source commodity feeds such as dried distiller's grain and soybean hulls.

He encouraged Kentucky producers to think ahead about their hay situation and to check a few already established Web sites such as <http://www.nebraska-alfalfa.com>;

<http://www.haybarn.com>;
<http://www.hayexchange.com>;
<http://www.hayforsale.net> and
<http://www.nationalhay.org>.



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Record 324 participate in young farmer summer outing



THE YOUNG FARMERS SAW SOME HIGH QUALITY CATTLE AT SMITHLAND ANGUS FARM.

Photos by Tom Logue

The Young Farmer Summer Outing is a hot item on KFB's agenda. Lured by a fun-filled agenda in one of the most scenic areas of the state, a record 324 participants turned out for this summer's weekend getaway in the Lake Cumberland area.

Somerset was the home base but the participants had an opportunity to see some interesting sites and observe local agriculture operations in a multi-county area. Tours included Tarter Gate Company in Casey County; Sinking Valley Winery; two cattle farms; the dairy farm of former state young farmer advisory committee member Greg Goode of Casey County; the orchard and roadside market operated by KFB First Vice President Mark Haney and his



KIDS LOVED THE INFLATABLES SET UP AT THE HANEY'S HOME.

brother, Don; a civil war battlefield and Somerset Houseboats, the nation's premier manufacturer of luxury houseboats.

The huge crowd had a great time at the picnic dinner hosted by Mark and Marlene Haney. Besides some tasty food, the evening featured games and inflatables for the kids, as well as rides in KFB's hot air balloon.

Another big treat was in store on the following evening: A buffet dinner with bluegrass music at the McCreary Heritage Community Center in historic Stearns, followed by shopping and a train ride on the scenic Kentucky and Tennessee Railway. Stearns, which is south of Somerset in McCreary County, is one of the nation's last remaining company-built coal towns.

On the business end, the first two



THE PULASKI COUNTY HOME OF MARK AND MARLENE HANEY WAS THE SITE FOR AN EVENING OF GOOD FOOD AND FUN THINGS TO DO.

rounds of the discussion meet were held and policy development issues were discussed at a breakfast meeting. Advancing to the “final four” of the discussion meet are Brad Brammell of Boyd County, Rob Cole of Fayette County, Roger Miller of Garrard County and Jay McElwain of Muhlenberg County. They will compete for the state championship at KFB’s Annual Convention.

The other contestants were Brent Burchett of Calloway County, Chelsea Ann Pickens of Cumberland County, R.W. Eldridge of Franklin County, Jason Buckles of Hardin County, Alan Hubble of Lincoln County, Eric Heard of Logan County, Curtis Jones of Marion County, Brent Gerkins of Meade County, Stephen DeBoard of Pulaski County, Adam French of Union County, Chris Ragan of Warren County and Adam Prewitt of Whitley County.

Finalists were named for the prestigious Outstanding Young Farm Family award. They are Ryan and Brooke White of Union County, Bart and Sarah Jones of Allen County and Scott and Mary Ann Porter of Fleming County. The winner will be announced at the convention’s young farmer awards luncheon.

The remaining district winners were Fred Sipes of Meade County, Stan and Beth Ritchie of Franklin County, Greg and Joy Goode of Casey County, Greg and Contessa Harris of Madison County and Kevin Cornett of Clay County. Spencer County Young Farmer Committee Chairman Eric Sweazy described the weekend as “fantastic.”

“The tours were very interesting,” he said. “They had something for everyone and plenty to keep the kids happy. It’s a wonderful experience for the families.”



A GROUP FROM DISTRICT 6 WAS HARD AT WORK DURING THE POLICY DEVELOPMENT SESSION.



YOUNG FARMER ADVISORY COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN DANIEL GASTON, OF LOGAN COUNTY, PRESIDED OVER THE BUSINESS SESSIONS.



DON HANEY LED THE GROUP THROUGH A TOUR OF THE ORCHARD AND FARM MARKET HE OPERATES WITH HIS BROTHER, MARK, WHO’S KFB’S FIRST VICE PRESIDENT.



STUDIES SHOW FOLIAR FUNGICIDE NOT HELPFUL IN DROUGHT CONDITIONS

BY LAURA SKILLMAN
UK COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE

University of Kentucky plant pathologists say they continue to get questions on whether to treat cornfields with a foliar fungicide as a potential yield booster even in a dry year where disease problems are not prevalent.

While in soybeans, there is evidence that certain strobilurin fungicides sometimes enhance yield even when diseases are not present at a level sufficient to affect yield; in corn, the research base to date is much more mixed, said Paul Vincelli, plant pathologist with the UK Cooperative Extension Service.

“Most of the studies I’ve seen, including a number conducted in Kentucky, show no statistically significant improvement in yield from foliar fungicides applied to corn in trials when disease activity is minimal through grain fill,” he said. “This past week I obtained data from a neighboring state showing some field trials where a yield increase was observed from strobilurin fungicides when disease activity was low. However, these studies represent less than half of the total number of studies I’ve reviewed.

“Furthermore, only a fraction of the total number of trials I’ve reviewed showed yield increases that would more than pay for the cost of the application at \$4 per bushel corn prices. In those cases where these yield increases occurred there was no common denominator that would allow one to predict whether a field would benefit by a fungicide application in the absence of disease. Finally, it should be noted that the use of fungicides for general yield enhancement, even though disease activity is below yield-threatening levels, probably

increases the risk that fungicide resistance might eventually develop.”

These products are excellent for controlling gray leaf spot and northern leaf blight, but incidences of these diseases are very low this year. Dry conditions are not conducive to the proliferation of these diseases.

According to rainfall maps at the UK Ag Weather Center, counties west of Interstate 65 received substantial rainfall during the past week, as did other parts of the state, Vincelli noted. Cornfields approaching and at tasseling benefited greatly from this rainfall, as silking is the most sensitive stage of corn to drought. Although it is not apparent how much yield loss may have already taken place in some fields, last week’s rains came at a critical time for many cornfields in western Kentucky and probably did little to “kick-start” diseases.

“If there is no disease threat at tasseling, it seems to me, based on research I’ve done and seen from other states, that the threat to grain fill from these diseases is low, especially if the hybrid has some resistance,” he said. “I cannot predict what the conditions will be for the next eight weeks, but if you are not seeing disease at tasseling, it is likely to not be a major factor affecting yield.”

Many questions remain about foliar fungicide use in corn, Vincelli said. But his best assessment is that routine spraying of cornfields doesn’t look advantageous for this year. Some fields might benefit, however, depending on how many of the risk factors are present. Risk factors include high-value specialty corn production, disease-favorable weather, disease activity at tasseling, irrigation, high yield potential, late planting, no-till production, continuous corn production and susceptible hybrids.

“If I were a producer planning to spray, I would try to arrange to leave one or more untreated strips,” he said. “An unreplicated, untreated strip is not a valid experiment, but at least it would give the producer a crude indication as to whether they might have gotten some benefit from the application. Even crude information is better than no information, and no information is what the producer will have if he treats the entire field and leaves nothing untreated.”

EPA APPROVES COBALT INSECTICIDE

Dow AgroSciences announced that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has accepted label registration of new Cobalt™ insecticide for the broad-spectrum control of insects in row and selected specialty crops.

Cobalt delivers powerful, consistent broad-spectrum insect control and combines fast knockdown with residual activity to control a wide variety of pests, including, but not limited to, aphids, beetles, grasshoppers, mites, worms, weevils and many other insects. Cobalt is registered for use in alfalfa, Brussels sprouts, corn (field, sweet and seed), cotton, sorghum (milo), soybeans, sunflowers, tree nuts (almond, filbert, pecan and walnut) and wheat.

Hank King, marketing specialist for Dow AgroSciences, calls Cobalt a new, high-performance insecticide with a great overall value proposition.

Cobalt™ insecticide also is tank-mix compatible with most commonly used crop protection products, nutrients and adjuvants.

For more information about Cobalt insecticide, visit www.CobaltInsecticide.com.



SYNGENTA HAS NEW SOIL-APPLIED INSECTICIDE

Syngenta Crop Protection announced the launch of the newly registered Force® CS soil-applied insecticide. Force CS has been designed to deliver superior control of corn rootworms and early-season pests in an advanced, convenient liquid formulation. Soil-applied insecticides currently on the market lack the ideal combination of performance and convenience, but Force CS delivers both in a fully integrated delivery system manufactured by John Deere.

Through the Central Insecticide System™, growers can more efficiently apply Force CS during corn planting.

“Force CS offers superior control of corn rootworms versus competitive products in both full-field and refuge acres, and it is the premier product for control of early-season pests such as white grub, wireworm and cutworm,” said Caydee Savinelli, Force technical brand manager, Syngenta Crop

Protection. “Through the Central Insecticide System, growers can apply Force CS to their corn acres as needed because the system is fully integrated with the planter.”

Force CS is drawn from its innovative closed packaging via direct injection and mixed with water. The solution is then delivered to the individual planter row units and applied in a T-band over the furrow so there are no recirculation or compatibility issues. Plus, as a result of this partnership, growers are provided with complete, top-notch service and support from both Syngenta and John Deere.

“This central fill, closed-handling system allows the operator to efficiently and accurately apply insecticide at planting while decreasing potential insecticide exposure to the operator,” said Rob Rippchen, division marketing manager, John Deere Seeding. “In addition, the unique, patent-pending

packaging of Force CS reduces product handling concerns.”

Craig Abell, technical support representative for Syngenta Crop Protection explained, “This system is going to make American corn growers a lot more efficient because they will be able to treat more acres in a day than with any other method of applying insecticide. They’ll get the best possible corn rootworm control delivered through a convenient, precise system.”

The Central Insecticide System will be available on John Deere 1790 Planters (30-inch only), 1770 NT CCS Planters with Pro-Series Row Units, and DB 80 and DB 90 CCS Planters with Pro-Series Row Units. The new system can be ordered now and will be available for the spring 2008 planting season. Please contact your local Syngenta or John Deere sales representative for more information or visit www.ForceCS-insecticide.com.

Valvoline joins YF&R awards program

Valvoline, a division of Ashland Inc. (NYSE: ASH), has announced it will add its proven lubrication products to the awards that recognize the top young farmers and ranchers throughout the nation. The AFBF Young Farmers & Ranchers (YF&R) Achievement Award program holds a long history of recognizing the most innovative and progressive young farmers and ranchers and now Valvoline will join in that recognition.

“We are proud to recognize the commitment and dedication of young farmers and ranchers by providing our sponsorship for this well-recognized program,” said Sam Mitchell, president, Valvoline. “Product performance is vital for the demanding conditions

found in the agriculture industry, and Valvoline brings a level of performance to meet those needs.”

“Through Farm Bureau’s Young Farmers & Ranchers Program, we are building leaders for agriculture, so it is appropriate that we welcome an industry leader like Valvoline aboard as a supporter in helping us reach that goal,” said AFBF President Bob Stallman.

Each year the best young farmers and ranchers across the country compete to be honored with the award. Valvoline will provide the winner with a \$1,000 voucher for the purchase of Valvoline products. Also, winners at the state level will each receive a \$250 Valvoline product voucher and runners-up to the national title will each receive

a \$500 voucher. These vouchers are redeemable at any NAPA Auto Parts store.

In addition to the AFBF Achievement Award, Valvoline will also provide discount coupons for Farm Bureau members available from the Farm Bureau Country Web site, at www.fbcountry.com.

The AFBF YF&R program includes both men and women between the ages of 18-35. The objective is to provide leadership in building a more effective Farm Bureau, preserve individual freedoms and expand opportunities in agriculture.

Kentucky had the national winner this year with John and Jill Mahan of Fayette County.

Farm Market Summer Tour



ABOVE: FIRST STOP WAS A TOUR OF APPLE VALLEY GREENHOUSE, A YEAR-ROUND OPERATION FEATURING HERBS, PERENNIALS, BEDDING PLANTS, HANGING BASKETS AND VEGETABLE PLANTS.

INSET: HALTER'S MARKET IN VINCENNES HAS THRIVED WITH A GREAT LOCATION ON A BUSY CITY STREET AND A NEW GREENHOUSE WITH AUTOMATIC CONTROLS.

Of all the information and ideas circulated during KFB's Roadside Farm Market Summer Tour last month, perhaps the most significant message was this: Communities will embrace a market that consistently offers quality products and friendly service.

Members of KFB's Certified Roadside Farm Markets Program who took the tour of markets in southern Indiana listened intently as Paul Mayse explained how he learned that lesson about his market in a suburb of Evansville.

After the market was severely damaged by a fire two years ago, the community helped him rebuild as churches and civic organizations held fund-raising activities. He also received unsolicited

donations from loyal customers, Mayse said.

"You'd be surprised how important you are to your community," Mayse

said to his colleagues from Kentucky. "You have something they want. They want fresh, locally-raised products. They want to deal with friendly people who are glad to see them.

"If you have good stuff and good service, they'll come back time and time again. There's a bond."

A 60-year-old family business, Mayse Farm Market rebounded in a big way and is enjoying much success with fresh produce, a bakery, corn mazes and other "agritainment" features. Among the high points is the sale of some 1,200 dozen ears of sweet corn per week.

That was one of the success stories featured in the two-day tour of three farm markets, two orchards, a greenhouse operation and a winery. But not every

story had a totally positive tone. At Apple Valley Greenhouses in New Salisbury, owner Tom Speaker explained how retail sales were suffering due to intense competition from superstores like Lowe's and Wal-Mart. And at age 67, Speaker said he's interested in retiring but is doubtful of being able to find a buyer for his business, plus his three children have careers and are not interested.

At Engelbrecht Orchard near Evansville, owner Connie Engelbrecht lamented difficulties in getting a loan for much-needed renovations to her facilities because the 60-acre tract is surrounded by development, including a golf course and subdivisions. "I'm just trying to get into a position to survive," she said of the 90-year-old family business.

Apple Hill Orchard in Bruceville was the most eye-catching stop, with a fully-trellised orchard of thousands of apple trees amid rolling terrain plus a log cabin housing a market featuring a bakery, a loft for private gatherings and a beautiful deck with a tile floor and scenic view of the orchard. But owner Joe Black, an attorney by trade, told the group that he had yet to have a profitable year — he was expecting to come close to profitability this year until the Easter freeze wiped out his red delicious crop.

On the "positive" side of the ledger, the group learned about a booming business at Halter's Market in Vincennes, about the successful expansion of products and "agritainment" activities at Churchill's Countryside Farm in Depauw, and at how the 12-year-old French Lick Winery has become one of the state's premier wineries.

Participants were pleased to have a diversity of operations to review.

"I think it's very helpful that we get all sides — hear about what works and what doesn't work," said Kenneth Imel, who has a market in Greenup County. "We're getting some good ideas but we're also hearing about problems and pitfalls."

"It's a good variety of operations," said Barbara Gregory, who operates a small market in Henry County with her husband, Glenn. "We're seeing a lot of different approaches to doing things."

A fall tour is in the planning stage, tentatively for the Lake Cumberland region.



ENGBRECHT ORCHARD IN EVANSVILLE HOPES TO CASH IN ON A NICE VIEW FROM ITS MARKET BUILDING.

TOP: CHURCHILL'S COUNTRYSIDE FARMS FEATURED A ROADSIDE MARKET WITH A VARIETY OF PRODUCE.

MIDDLE: PAUL MAYSE TOLD THE GROUP HOW MAYSE FARM MARKET REBOUNDED FROM A FIRE, EXPANDING ITS "AGRITAINMENT" ACTIVITIES.

BOTTOM: JOE BLACK OF APPLE HILL ORCHARD TALKED BUSINESS FROM THE BEAUTIFUL LOFT IN THE LOG CABIN THAT SERVES AS HIS MARKETPLACE.

NATIONAL CATTLE NUMBERS LOW

USDA's mid-year update shows all cattle and calves in the United States as of July 1 totaled 104.8 million head, slightly below the 105.2 million on July 1, 2006, but one percent above the 104.2 million two years ago.

All cows and heifers that have calved, at 42.5 million, were down slightly from the 42.6 million on July 1, 2006, but unchanged from two years ago. Beef cows, at 33.4 million, were down slightly from the past two years. Milk cows, at 9.15 million, were unchanged from July 1, 2006, but up one percent from two years ago. The 2007 calf crop is expected to be 37.4 million, down slightly from 2006 and 2005.

Other class estimates on July 1, 2007, and the changes from July 1, 2006, are as follows: Beef replacement heifers, 4.7 million, down six percent; milk replacement heifers, 3.9 million, up three percent; steers weighing 500 pounds and over, 14.9 million, down one percent; bulls weighing 500 pounds and over, 2.1 million, unchanged; calves under 500 pounds, 28.7 million, down one percent; all cattle on feed for slaughter, 12.3 million, down two percent.

SHEEP/GOAT COUNTS ARE UPDATED

The U.S. sheep and lamb inventory on July 1, totaled 7.73 million head, down slightly from July 1, 2006, and one percent below July 1, 2005. Breeding sheep inventory at 4.61 million head on July 1 was down slightly from a year earlier. Market sheep and lambs (including newborns), at 3.12 million head, were also down slightly. The 2007 U.S. lamb crop is expected to total 4.12 million head, up one percent from 2006.

The goat inventory on July 1 totaled 3.60 million head, up four percent from July 2006. Breeding goat inventory totaled 2.69 million head, up four percent from last July. All market goats and kids totaled 905,000 head, up two percent. On July 1, meat and all other goats totaled three million head, up five percent from July 2006. Milk goat inventory was also up five percent, increasing to 335,000 head. The 2007 kid crop is expected to total 2.03 million head, up six percent from 2006.

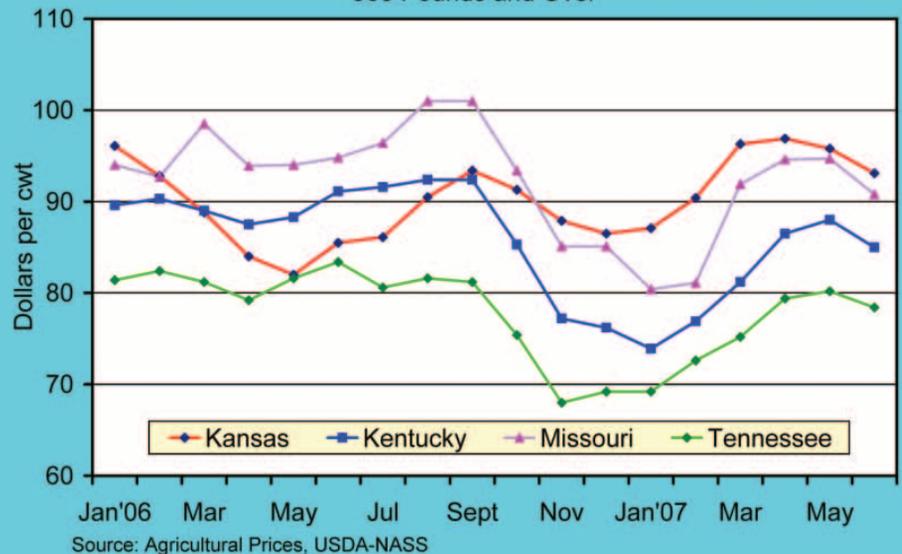
LOWER MILK PRICES PROJECTED

USDA projects 2007 milk production at 184.3 billion pounds. High milk prices for the rest of 2007, combined with more favorable feed prices, will likely lead to higher cow numbers. Milk per cow is expected to rise by only 1.4 percent year-over-year.

Milk production in 2008 is forecast at 188.4 billion pounds, up 2.2 percent from the 2007 forecast, indicat-

ing a return to growth closer to trend. Tight world supplies of dairy products and a weak dollar have buoyed dairy exports, especially for nonfat dry milk. Domestic demand for dairy products, especially cheese, will keep product prices high throughout the balance of 2007. Prices could moderate slightly in 2008. The average cheese price is expected to be \$1.675-1.705 a pound in 2007 and \$1.55-1.65 a pound in 2008.

Average Price Received for Steers & Heifers
500 Pounds and Over



Average Price Received by Farmers
Corn and Soybeans

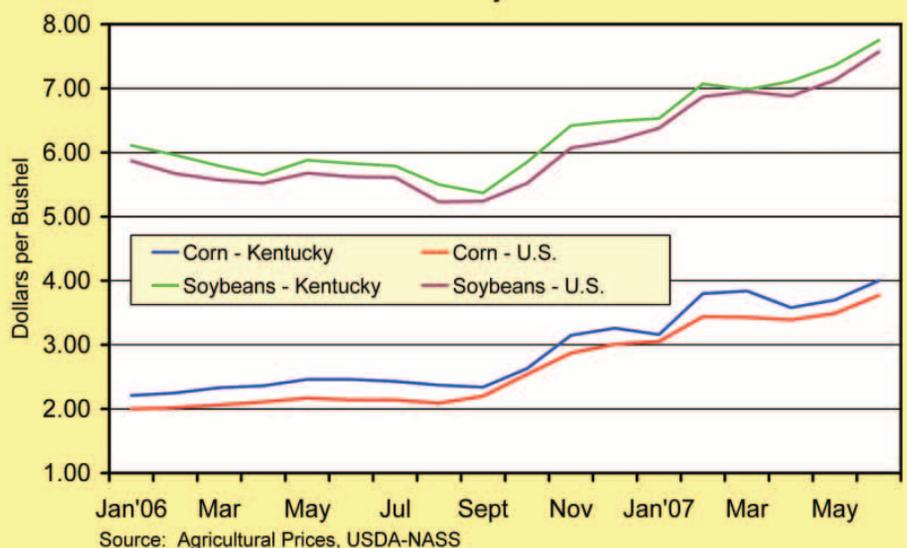


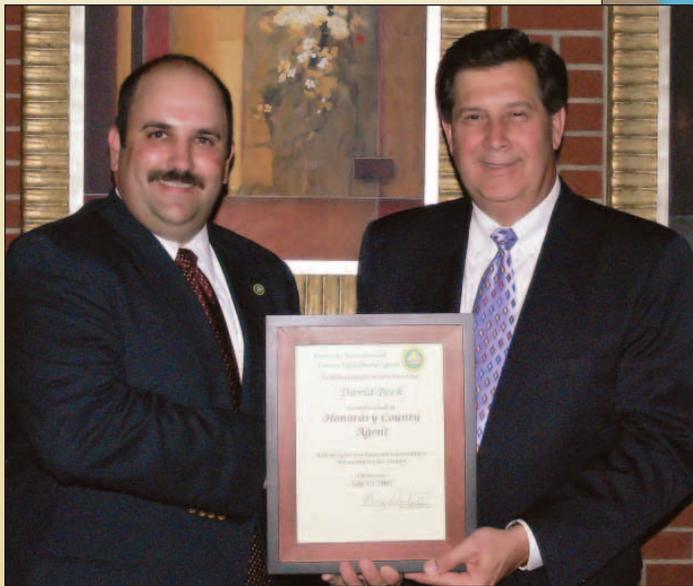


PHOTO GALLERY



TAYLOR COUNTY FARM BUREAU INSURANCE AGENT DARRIN PRICE SHOWED OFF THE STOCK CAR HE HAS DEVELOPED TO PROMOTE FARM BUREAU. IT'S A FORD FUSION THAT CLOSELY RESEMBLES A BUSCH SERIES CAR DRIVEN BY KURT BUSCH. HE PUT THE CAR TOGETHER WITH THE HELP OF BREWCO MOTOR SPORTS OF CENTRAL CITY AND SOME FRIENDS. IT WAS A SMASH HIT AT CAMPBELLSVILLE'S FOURTH OF JULY PARADE.

MARLENE HANEY, A MEMBER OF KFB'S EDUCATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE AND WIFE OF KFB FIRST VICE PRESIDENT MARK HANEY, WAS INTERVIEWED BY KFB'S MIKE FELDHAUS AFTER RECEIVING THE "ADMINISTRATOR OF THE YEAR AWARD" FROM THE KENTUCKY ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL ADMINISTRATORS. MRS. HANEY IS ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT FOR CURRICULUM FOR PULASKI COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS. FELDHAUS REPORTED THE STORY ON HIS DAILY "ALL ACROSS KENTUCKY" BROADCAST.



KFB EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT DAVID S. BECK WAS NAMED AN "HONORARY COUNTY AGENT" IN RECOGNITION OF HIS SERVICE TO AGRICULTURE AND TO THE KENTUCKY ASSOCIATION OF COUNTY AGRICULTURAL AGENTS. HE RECEIVED THE AWARD FROM ASSOCIATION PRESIDENT GREG DRAKE DURING THE GROUP'S ANNUAL MEETING. DRAKE IS THE AGENT FOR BUTLER COUNTY.

KFB DIRECTOR SCOTT TRAVIS OF SPENCER COUNTY SPOKE AT THE DISTRICT 5 POLICY DEVELOPMENT MEETING IN LOUISVILLE. THE ANNUAL PD MEETINGS WERE HELD FOR EACH OF THE KFB WORKING DISTRICTS, AFFORDING COUNTY LEADERS THE OPPORTUNITY TO ENJOY SOME FELLOWSHIP AND GET A REVIEW FROM KFB PUBLIC AFFAIRS STAFFERS ON SOME OF THE KEY STATE AND FEDERAL ISSUES ON THE AGENDA THIS YEAR. THE MEETINGS HELP TO PREPARE COUNTIES FOR THEIR RESOLUTIONS PROCESSES THAT CULMINATE AT THEIR RESPECTIVE ANNUAL MEETINGS.

TRAVIS BRIEFED THE GROUP ABOUT A "MEASURE THE CANDIDATE" MEETING BETWEEN KFB DIRECTORS AND THE GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATES.



FARM FILE



WORLD CORN CROP IS HUGE

The Agriculture Department issued its July estimates for world crop production. The report forecast 2007-2008 world corn production at 777 million metric tons, nine million larger than last month and 11 percent above last year. World wheat production was forecast at 612 million metric tons, up two million from the June report and 19 million or 3.25 percent above last year. World soybean production was forecast at 222.1 million metric tons, 14 million below 2006-2007 and 3.3 million below last month. World cotton production is forecast at 116 million bales, essentially unchanged from June.

PLAN DEVELOPED FOR HONEYBEE PROBLEM

USDA researchers have finalized an action plan for dealing with colony collapse disorder (CCD) of honeybees.

"There were enough honeybees to provide pollination for U.S. agriculture this year, but beekeepers could face a serious problem next year and beyond," said Gale Buchanan, USDA's undersecretary for research, education and economics. "The action plan provides a coordinated framework to ensure that all of the research that needs to be done is covered in order to get to the bottom of the CCD problem."

The action plan coordinates the federal strategy in response to CCD. It addresses four main components: (1) survey and data collection needs; (2) analysis of samples to determine the prevalence of various pests and pathogens, exposure to pesticides or other unusual factors; (3) controlled experiments to carefully analyze the potential causes of CCD; and (4) developing new methods to improve the general health of bees to reduce their susceptibility to CCD and other disorders.

WEB SITE WILL HAVE DROUGHT INFORMATION

Rainfall in recent weeks has eased the drought in some areas of Kentucky, but much of the state continues to suffer from a severe lack of soil moisture. The UK College of Agriculture is putting together a web site to assist farmers with drought-related information.

The major categories on the site will include crops, livestock and forages,

weather, weeds, pests and disease problems, home conservation, horticulture/home landscape, turf for sports fields, forestry and resource personnel. The site address was not available at press time, but can be obtained by contacting your county extension office or the UK College of Agriculture's web site.

BEEF NETWORK GETS A FINANCIAL BOOST

The Kentucky Agricultural Development Board approved Kentucky Beef Network, LLC for \$2,474,744 in state funds to continue current programs that increase producer profitability through education, on-farm management, and marketing. This proposal was one of the 65 projects, totaling \$5,553,701, approved at the July Kentucky Agricultural Development Board Meeting.

Efforts of the Kentucky Beef Network continue in preparing Kentucky producers to cope with the National Animal Identification System and Country of Origin Labeling through development of individual animal ID systems, utilizing Radio Frequency Identification and the KBN Data Management System. They continue to focus on implementing practical technology and education that enhances

cattle marketing and production. The Kentucky Beef Network will also be able to explore new marketing opportunities.

To date, Kentucky has invested more than \$250 million to an array of county, regional and state projects designed to increase net farm income and create sustainable new farm-based business enterprises. The diversification programs represent more than 3,036 projects that have been funded through the Agricultural Development Fund, since the inception of the program in January 2001.

For more information on this project contact John Stevenson, Director of Kentucky Beef Network, LLC, at (859) 278-0899. To learn more about cost-share grant and loan programs available through the Agricultural Development Fund contact the Governor's Office of Agricultural Policy at (502) 564-4627.

U.S. BEEF BACK ON SHELVES IN SOUTH KOREA

U.S. beef is on the shelves in South Korean stores for the first time in three years. Lotte Mart, a major discount outlet store in the country, is stocking its shelves with U.S. beef, which will cost consumers about 50 percent less than domestic product. The company will sell

about 40 tons of U.S. beef produced by Swift & Co. at its 53 stores. South Korea imposed a ban on U.S. beef in 2003 due to concerns about bovine spongiform encephalopathy. The first shipment of U.S. beef allowed into the country since the ban was lifted arrived in April.

CRATE THEFTS HURTING DAIRIES

Dairies around the nation are facing an estimated \$80 million in annual losses due to milk crate theft. Last year, the dairy processing industry lost around 20 million crates, said International Dairy Foods Association executives. The crates are being stolen off loading docks and sold to recycling companies that chop up and ship the plastic to companies in China to be made into a variety of products.

The petroleum-based plastic commonly used to manufacture milk crates has recently increased in value along with gasoline prices. The material now sells for 22 cents a pound, compared to about seven cents a pound in recent years. Dairies around the nation are taking action, persuading legislators to pass laws allowing them to sue recyclers who have accepted stolen crates.

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

ADAIR COUNTY

Date: September 18, 2007 • 7:00 p.m.
Place: Cramner Dining Hall, Lindsey Wilson College

ANDERSON COUNTY

Date: October 8, 2007 • 5:30 p.m.
Place: Alton Ruritan Club

BATH COUNTY

Date: September 17, 2007 • 6:30 p.m.
Place: Ag Education Center

BOONE COUNTY

Date: September 18, 2007 • 6:00 p.m.
Place: Extension Office

BOURBON COUNTY

Date: October 18, 2007 • 6:30 p.m.
Place: American Legion Park

BOYD COUNTY

Date: October 22, 2007 • 6:30 p.m.
Place: Extension Office

BREATHITT COUNTY

Date: October 12, 2007 • 6:00 p.m.
Place: LBJ School Cafeteria

BULLITT COUNTY

Date: September 22, 2007 • 6:00 p.m.
Place: Extension Office

CALLOWAY COUNTY

Date: September 4, 2007 • 7:30 p.m.
Place: Farm Bureau Building

CARROLL COUNTY

Date: October 8, 2007 • 7:00 p.m.
Place: Farm Bureau Office

CARTER COUNTY

Date: October 22, 2007 • 6:30 p.m.
Place: Farm Bureau Office

ELLIOTT COUNTY

Date: September 25, 2007 • 6:30 p.m.
Place: High School Cafeteria

FAYETTE COUNTY

Date: October 11, 2007 • 6:30 p.m.
Place: Extension Office

FRANKLIN COUNTY

Date: October 2, 2007 • 6:30 p.m.
Place: Extension Office

GALLATIN COUNTY

Date: October 1, 2007 • 10:00 a.m.
Place: Farm Bureau Office

GRANT COUNTY

Date: September 22, 2007 • 6:30 p.m.
Place: Farm Bureau Office

GREENUP COUNTY

Date: November 5, 2007 • 5:00 p.m.
Place: Farm Bureau Building

HARDIN COUNTY

Date: September 14, 2007 • 6:30 p.m.
Place: Central Hardin High School

HARRISON COUNTY

Date: September 20, 2007 • 6:00 p.m.
Place: Fairgrounds

HENRY COUNTY

Date: September 27, 2007 • 6:30 p.m.
Place: Henry County Middle School

KENTON COUNTY

Date: September 18, 2007 • 6:30 p.m.
Place: St. Cecilia's Undercroft, Independence

LAWRENCE COUNTY

Date: October 16, 2007 • 6:00 p.m.
Place: Front Porch Restaurant

MAGOFFIN COUNTY

Date: September 24, 2007 • 6:00 p.m.
Place: Teen Scene Building, Salyersville

MADE COUNTY

Date: September 18, 2007 • 6:00 p.m.
Place: Farm Bureau Community Building

MENIFEE COUNTY

Date: September 19, 2007 • 6:00 p.m.
Place: Farm Bureau Office

MERCER COUNTY

Date: September 10, 2007 • 6:00 p.m.
Place: Lion's Park, Harrodsburg

METCALFE COUNTY

Date: September 20, 2007 • 6:00 p.m.
Place: Extension Office

MONTGOMERY COUNTY

Date: October 4, 2007 • 6:30 p.m.
Place: High School Cafeteria

MORGAN COUNTY

Date: October 9, 2007 • 6:30 p.m.
Place: Extension Building

OWEN COUNTY

Date: October 1, 2007 • 6:00 p.m.
Place: Extension Office

PENDLETON COUNTY

Date: September 29, 2007 • 6:30 p.m.
Place: Farm Bureau Office

PERRY COUNTY

Date: August 14, 2007 • 6:00 p.m.
Place: Fire Station No. 2, Hazard

PIKE COUNTY

Date: September 13, 2007 • 6:30 p.m.
Place: Landmark Hotel, Pikeville

POWELL COUNTY

Date: August 14, 2007 • 7:30 p.m.
Place: Farm Bureau Office

ROBERTSON COUNTY

Date: September 15, 2007 • 6:00 p.m.
Place: Deming High School

ROCKCASTLE COUNTY

Date: September 21, 2007 • 6:00 p.m.
Place: Roundstone Elementary School

ROWAN COUNTY

Date: October 2, 2007 • 6:30 p.m.
Place: Farm Bureau Office

SHELBY COUNTY

Date: October 6, 2007 • 7:00 p.m.
Place: Stratton Community Center

SCOTT COUNTY

Date: September 25, 2007 • 6:30 p.m.
Place: Extension Office

TRIMBLE COUNTY

Date: August 21, 2007 • 7:00 p.m.
Place: Farm Bureau Office

WARREN COUNTY

Date: August 18, 2007 • 6:00 p.m.
Place: Warren Central High School

WAYNE COUNTY

Date: September 24, 2007 • 6:00 p.m.
Place: Farm Bureau Building

WHITLEY COUNTY

Date: September 11, 2007 • 6:30 p.m.
Place: Brashear's Grocery

WOLFE COUNTY

Date: September 22, 2007 • 6:00 p.m.
Place: Hazel Green Fire Department

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FARM MARKET

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To get your free directory of these KFB Certified Roadside Farm Markets call (502) 495-5000 ext. 7226. Or contact: roadside@kyfb.com



NORTH CENTRAL

- Antioch Daylily Garden**
Lexington • (859) 293-0350
- Atwood Village Family Farm**
Independence • (859) 803-4992
- Ayres Family Orchard**
Owenton • (502) 484-5236
- Beech Springs Farm Market**
Winchester • (859) 749-0484
- Benton Farms U-Pick**
Walton • (859) 485-7000
- Boyd Orchards**
Versailles • (859) 873-3097
- Bray Fruit**
Bedford • (502) 255-7296
- Bray Orchard & Roadside Market**
Bedford • (502) 255-3607
- Callis Orchards**
Bedford • (502) 255-3316
- Caludi's Fields**
Lexington • (859) 275-2374
- Cheek's Produce**
Taylorsville • (502) 477-1277
- Chrisman Mill Vineyards**
Nicholasville • (859) 881-5007
- Chrisman Mill Winery, LLC**
Lexington • (859) 264-WINE (9463)
- Country Corner Greenhouse & Nursery, Inc.**
Shepherdsville • (502) 955-8635
- Evans Orchard & Cider Mill**
Georgetown • (502) 867-3044
- Farmer Bill**
Williamstown • (859) 823-1058
- George Gagel Truck Farm**
Louisville • (502) 447-6809
- Gallrein Farms**
Shelbyville • (502) 633-4849
- The Greenhouse in Gertrude**
Brooksville • (606) 782-0033
- Interstate Greenhouse & Nursery**
Carrollton • (800) 830-6429
- Kinman Farms**
Burlington • (859) 689-2682
- Lan Mark Farm**
Sharpsburg • (859) 383-4454
- Lavender Hills of Kentucky, LLC**
Brooksville • (606) 735-3355
- McGlasson Farms**
Hebron • (859) 689-5229
- Michels Family Farm**
Sparta • (859) 643-2511
- "R" Farm Pumpkins & More, LLC**
Maysville • (606) 742-2429
- Reed Valley Orchard**
Paris • (859) 987-6480
- Ridgeview Greenhouse & Nursery**
Shepherdsville • (502) 543-7317
- Sandyland Acres Haunted Hayride**
Petersburg • (859) 689-4283
- Thieneman's Herbs & Perennials**
Louisville • (502) 491-6305
- Tower View Farm & Nursery**
Jeffersonton • (502) 267-2066
- Turnpike Gardens**
Cox's Creek • (502) 538-8025
- Yuletide Tree Farm & Nursery**
Winchester • (859) 771-4729

EAST

- Alley Farms**
Louisa • (606) 483-1326
- Bennett's Mill Covered Bridge**
South Shore • (606) 932-9334
- Bramble Ridge Orchard**
Mt. Sterling • (859) 498-9123
- Imel's Greenhouse**
Greenup • (606) 473-1708
- Townsend's Sorghum Mill and Farm Market**
Jeffersonville • (859) 498-4142

WEST

- Christian Way Farm**
Hopkinsville • (270) 269-2434
- The Country Barn**
Elkton • (270) 885-4843
- D & M Produce**
Ledbetter • (270) 898-6312
- Father's Country Hams**
Bremen • (877) 525-4267
- Garrett Farms**
Paducah • (270) 366-1110
- Gateway Nursery & Florist**
Benton • (270) 527-1884
- Lost Valley Farms**
Bremen • (270) 525-9720
- Turner Valley Produce**
Russellville • (270) 726-3983
- Wurth Farms, LLC**
Paducah • (270) 554-1403
- Wyatt Farms, Inc., Greenhouse & Nursery**
Benton • (270) 527-2855
- Zook's Produce**
Herndon

SOUTH CENTRAL

- Acres of Land Winery**
Richmond • (859) 328-3000
- Britt's Market**
Glasgow • (270) 590-0722
- Burton's Garden Center**
Campbellsville • (270) 789-1239
- Chaney's Dairy Barn**
Bowling Green • (270) 843-5567
- Dennison's Roadside Market**
Horse Cave • (270) 786-1663
- Double Hart Farm**
Corbin • (606) 523-0465
- Fairview Pumpkin Farm**
Harrodsburg • (859) 734-2701
- Frenchvalley Farms**
Jamestown • (270) 343-5052
- Gold City Flower Farm**
Franklin • (270) 776-6584
- Haney's Appledale Farm**
Nancy • (606) 636-6148
- Hillcrest Garden Center**
Richmond • (859) 623-9394
- Hillcrest Nursery**
Richmond • (859) 623-9394
- Hinton's Orchard & Farm Market**
Hodgenville • (270) 325-3854
- Jackson's Orchard & Nursery, Inc.**
Bowling Green • (270) 781-5303
- Kenny's Farmhouse Cheese**
Austin • (270) 434-4124
- Lee's Garden Center**
Hodgenville • (270) 358-9897
- McQuerry's Family Farm Herbs-N-Heirlooms**
Paint Lick • (859) 792-8268
- Mammoth Cave Transplants**
Brownsville • (270) 597-2533
- Maple Hill Manor**
Springfield • (859) 336-3075
- Mariner's Rest Produce**
Danville • (859) 319-3508
- O'Daniel Farms**
Bowling Green • (270) 782-3932
- Old Crow Inn**
Danville • (859) 236-1775
- The Old Milk Barn**
Salvisa • (859) 865-2043
- Sinking Valley Vineyard & Winery, Inc.**
Somerset • (606) 274-0223
- Three Springs Farm**
Elizabethtown • (270) 360-0644
- Village Farms Produce & Hay**
Perryville • (859) 613-3969
- Warren Farm Greenhouse**
Richmond • (859) 328-7005

