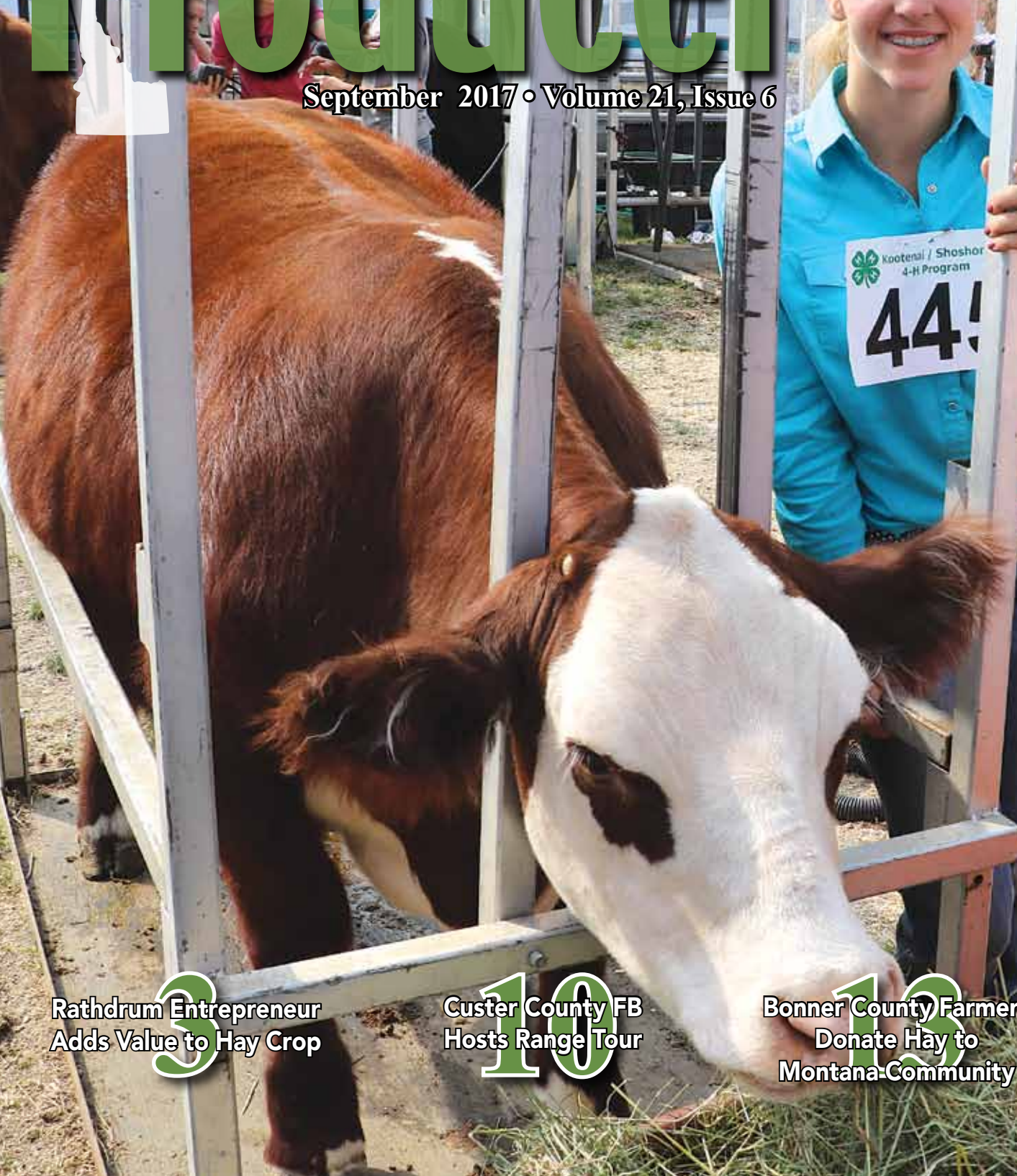


Gem State

 IDAHO FARM BUREAU

# Producer

September 2017 • Volume 21, Issue 6



Rathdrum Entrepreneur  
Adds Value to Hay Crop



Custer County FB  
Hosts Range Tour



Bonner County Farmers  
Donate Hay to  
Montana Community





## Taking NAFTA to the Next Level for Ag

## Beyond the Fencerows



By Zippy Duvall  
AFBF President

Agriculture will be front and center in the recently launched North American Free Trade Agreement negotiations. Trade agreements have a good track record of opening international markets for U.S.-grown products by breaking down trade barriers and reducing tariffs

that keep America's farmers and ranchers from reaching new customers around the world.

NAFTA has been no exception. Annual ag exports to Canada and Mexico soared from \$8.9 billion in 1993 to \$38.1 billion in 2016. But that doesn't mean there isn't room for improvement.

Renegotiation is an opportunity to

make this trade deal even better. The American Farm Bureau Federation is working closely with Congress, the White House and government agencies so they know what our priorities for NAFTA are, and what we need to make them happen. We are eager for U.S. trade negotiators to take a seat at the table and are confident they will represent

See DUVALL, page 6

## Developing Sound Policy is Our Charge



By Bryan Searle  
President Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

"I know of no pursuit in which more real and important services can be rendered to any country than by improving its agriculture."

George Washington made the previous comment at a time when most Americans were farmers or ranchers. Today only about two percent of Americans earn their living from the land. However, this wise sentiment is just as relevant today as it was then.

So what have we done to improve agriculture?

We produce high-quality crops and livestock that feed this nation and contribute to a global economy. And we try to do it a little better every year. But is that enough?

Our 36 Idaho Farm Bureau county organizations are about hip-deep in the annual policy development process right now. It's a time-consuming and sometimes frustrating endeavor to identify a problem, research a solution and then convince our fellow farmers and ranchers to support it. But that's how it's supposed to be. Our challenges in agriculture and especially the politics of food are complex.

Farm Bureau utilizes a time-tested,

See SEARLE, page 6

## Accountability



By Rick Keller  
CEO Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

I recently read a blog by Michael Roger about an event I remembered. The event was a perfect game that went imperfect. Roger wrote: "On a June 2, 2010, Armando Galarraga, a pitcher for the Detroit Tigers, was one out from pitching a

perfect game; something that is rare in major league baseball. However, on the last out, the first base umpire Jim Joyce ruled the runner safe, putting an end to Galarraga's quest for a perfect game. Joyce believed he made the right call until he saw the replay for himself after the game. The replay showed the runner was clearly out and that Galarraga should have received credit for a perfect game. Joyce, the umpire, immediately went to the 28-year-old pitcher from Venezuela after the

game and apologized for getting the call wrong.

"And then Galarraga turned around and forgave him for blowing a call that cost him something he never did in his career again; throw a perfect game. "He probably feels more bad than me," Galarraga said. "Nobody's perfect. Everybody's human. I understand. I give the guy a lot of credit for saying, 'I need to talk to you.' You don't see an umpire tell you that after a game. I gave

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# IDAHO FARM BUREAU

Volume 21, Issue 6  
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Printed by: Owyhee Publishing, Homedale, ID

#### GEM STATE PRODUCER

USPS #015-024, is published monthly  
except February, May, August and November by the  
IDAHO FARM BUREAU FEDERATION,  
275 Tierra Vista Drive, Pocatello, ID 83201.

#### POSTMASTER send changes of address to:

GEM STATE PRODUCER  
P.O. Box 4848, Pocatello, ID 83205-4848.  
Periodicals postage paid at Pocatello, Idaho,  
and additional mailing offices.

#### Subscription rate:

\$6.00 per year included in Farm Bureau dues.

#### MAGAZINE CONTACTS:

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EDITOR (208) 239-4292 • ADS (208) 239-4279  
E-MAIL: dashton@idahofb.org  
www.idahofb.org

**Cover:** Baylee Woempner of Kootenai County placed third in her weight class at the North Idaho Fair. Her brother Tavis placed fourth in the same class. The judging took place on August 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Photo by Steve Ritter



A soft press in operation near Rathdrum. The machine cuts, reties and repackages large bales into smaller bales. Photo by Steve Ritter

# Farmer Finds Niche in Hay Market

By John Thompson

RATHDRUM – Making business easier for customers is one way entrepreneurs succeed. Kyle Meyer recently found a way to increase convenience for his customers while ensuring a steady market for his product.

Meyer and his wife Britne own K & B Hay Company in Rathdrum. They grow and sell alfalfa and timothy grass in traditional bales of various sizes. About one year ago they began selling smaller, 50-pound bales that are catching on among horse owners in Kootenai County and the Spokane area.

Inside a large steel building on Meyer’s farm is new machine that turns big bales of hay into little bales of hay. The machine, purchased in Oregon and referred to as a “soft press,” shears large 3 foot by 4 foot bales that weigh approximately 1,200 pounds, into 50-pound pieces, re-ties, covers them with plastic wrap and stacks them on pallets. It doesn’t compress the plant fiber like the presses used for exporting hay.

The concept seems counterintuitive. Agricultural technology, especially with hay and forage products, has evolved toward bigger, heavier packaging to take advantage of economies of scale. However, as Meyer explained, not everyone is up to bucking

See NICHE HAY MARKET page 4



# NICHE HAY MARKET

Continued from page 3



Kyle Meyer delivers hay in small bales to a local feed store. Meyer and his wife Britne own K & B Hay in Rathdrum. They sell and deliver alfalfa and timothy hay in Kootenai County and the Spokane area. Photo by Steve Ritter

100-pound bales.

“Lighter bales are just easier to handle,” he said. “We thought that the boarding stables wouldn’t be interested in smaller bales but we’ve found that many times it’s ladies who work in those places and they prefer a lighter bale.”

High numbers of horse owners in the region make up Meyer’s client base. He also sells to a few feed stores, outfitters and various other livestock owners. Because it’s a unique, niche market, prices are steadier, he said.

“We don’t see the same big

price swings they have in the hay export market,” he said. “Our prices only fluctuate \$10, maybe \$20 per ton.”

Meyer and his two employees run the press an average of three days each week while working around hay harvest on about 1,000 acres and mak-

ing deliveries. They also offer certified hay for use in the backcountry where it’s a Forest Service requirement. Meyer said they’ve struggled a bit this summer with locating quality grass-hay. They cut alfalfa three times each summer on the Rathdrum Prairie and har-



# Boundary County Farmers Donate Feed, Transportation to Montana Ranchers

By Jake Putnam

Bonnors Ferry—The Lodgepole Complex Fire in Montana destroyed more than 270,000 acres of prime rangeland near Jordan, Montana and it's creating a hardship for ranchers.

North Idaho farmers and ranchers heard about the urgent needs of ranchers there and decided to pitch in. Boundary County Farm Bureau member Kristy Kellogg put together an Idaho hay lift to help.

“We have a lot of neighbors that are ranchers here in Boundary County and they wanted to help out, so they donated hay. We also had Farm Bureau members that donated semi-trucks and they even hauled the hay over there at their expense,” said Kellogg.

Kellogg says the response was so overwhelming that they had more hay than trucks.

“It's sad that we couldn't get all of it over there. It was hard getting it delivered but we ended up sending more than 135 tons of hay,” said Kellogg.

Montana ranchers need at least 34,000 tons to feed 7,700 head of cattle this winter and up until the grazing turnout date of June 1, 2018.

Emergency hay donations started coming in since July 24, not only from Idaho but throughout the West.

“The first rounds came from the drought stricken neighbors who provided hay despite having none to spare,” said Montana rancher Deena Shotzberger. “Caravans of hay continue to come in from all over Montana and adjacent states. Some from as far away as New Mexico.”

Thousands of cattle survived the wildfire after ranchers cut fences, allowing herds to escape but now face the threat of starvation and dehydration. Ranchers are trying to



Truckers, farmers and ranchers from northern Idaho donated 135 tons of hay to ranchers in eastern Montana to help them recover from a wildfire that scorched nearly 300,000 acres.

Photo Courtesy of Kristy Kellogg

collect their herds but they have nowhere to graze and the challenges are just starting.

Kellogg is spreading the word of rancher hardships through social media. Hooking up ranchers with volunteers to help drive cattle, share pastureland and donate hay.

“With the help of Kristy Kellogg, who called farmers and ranchers that we didn't reach by social media,” said Shawn Watt of Kalispell. “I feel like we are going to make a difference to ranchers over there. We have had offers of drivers and offers of fencing supplies and of course we have had offers of hay. Getting hay there is the biggest hurdle we have. It is over 1,200 miles for the Boundary County folks, so this is no small ask.”

Kellogg says the slideshow she made to draw attention to the Montana ranchers' plight went viral and she's humbled by the

outpouring of help from Idahoans.

“All I did is make a little slide show on my County Facebook page and tons of people shared it,” said Kellogg. “It's really cool because we started hearing all the comments back from the people in the affected areas. Things like ‘thank you so much,’ we were called angels and that they were grateful for the help.”

Federal assistance and emergency loans are available to producers in the burned area.

“Senator Jon Tester (D-Montana) is trying to expedite the process, but the funds are still several months out, and will only cover a portion of the losses,” said Shotzberger. “So northern Idaho and Northwest Montana must continue to step up and help our brother and sister Montanans until then.”

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# DUVALL

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Continued from page 2

the needs of America's farmers and ranchers. In fact, President Trump has committed to farmers and ranchers that a renegotiated NAFTA will make U.S. agricultural trade even better than it has been these last 24 years.

Renegotiation is an opportunity to make this trade deal even better.

We are glad to see that continued market access remains the top objective for agriculture in the administration's NAFTA strategy. Even though NAFTA has been positive for agriculture as a whole, there are individual commodities or ag sectors facing trade challenges with our neighboring countries. An updated agreement

needs to resolve disputes over fresh produce and horticultural products with Mexico. It should also reduce or eliminate tariffs on dairy, poultry, and eggs in Canada. A truly modernized NAFTA will use science-based rules that prevent and resolve unfair trade barriers allegedly erected in the name of protecting animal, plant or human health.

International trade has given farmers and ranchers partnerships and business relationships with people all over the world. The boost in business abroad bolsters our industry and creates more jobs here at home. Successful trade agreements benefit all parties involved by setting the highest standard of trade rules and improving com-

petitiveness. AFBF together with Canada's and Mexico's largest farm organizations all agree that NAFTA has been a huge success for North American agriculture. We even sent a joint letter to our respective governments stressing the importance of NAFTA to the farm economy in all three countries.

We want to see the U.S. and our trade partners become global leaders in setting market-driven and science-based terms for trade. To that end, AFBF has the distinct honor of hosting the 38th biennial North American and European Union Agricultural Conference this fall. Hosting such a prestigious global event here in Washington, D.C., gives us an opportunity to build lasting

relationships and friendships to help further opportunities for U.S. agriculture in the global market.

Free trade, while positive, also can be disruptive. It rejiggers markets once thought to be predictable. It might even lead us to change what we grow. But one thing it almost always does is give America's highly productive and efficient farmers and ranchers an edge in the global economy. It reflects one of the most positive aspects of farmers the world over: our ability to come together and find strength in our differences. It drives growth in our industry and expands access to safe and sustainable products at home and abroad.

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# KELLER

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Continued from page 2

him a hug.”

Accountability is a virtue we admire and respect. In the political world, accountability is often deemed lacking. I wish to honor Idaho's Congressional delegation for their accountability in supporting agriculture, even though they may not know they are being observed and scrutinized.

Recently, the American Farm Bureau Federation Board has approved publishing the Congressional Scorecard and Voting Records and posting the results on AFBF's Voice of Agriculture website at [www.fb.org](http://www.fb.org) under the ADVOCACY tab. The purpose is to share the voting record of members of Congress on the key issues af-

fecting farmers, ranchers and rural communities.

Each vote is selected based on AFBF's Strategic Action Plan issues. Votes must be on issues AFBF took clear positions on and expressed a position in communication prior to the vote. AFBF is non-partisan and does not endorse candidates. Farm Bureau is aggressively seeking to influence public-policy debates and to share the voting record of members of Congress.

The scorecard for Idaho's delegation is nearly perfect with Farm Bureau's positions. Each of our elected officials are encouraging Farm Bureau members to stay in regular contact with their congressional offices,

expressing concerns and opinions on the course the constituents seek. In a recent visit to the home office of the Idaho Farm Bureau, Senator Mike Crapo reaffirmed how important it is to hear from members like Farm Bureau. He tells of his offices receiving hundreds of calls a day expressing a view and acknowledged only a fraction are from the Idaho. He told us that many who support the positions he votes for do not call because they feel he is on the right track, but those are the individuals he needs to continue hearing from. "Even if it is a call telling us we are doing right, we need to hear from them because we are being overwhelmed from the other side," Crapo said.

The Farm Bureau scorecard

helps its members in checking the accountability of its elected leaders. We are encouraged to check it often and to express appreciation or direction to our voted officials. As you review the AFBF website, it will quickly become obvious of the strength of the Idaho delegation. Let each of us be accountable in keeping our members of Congress accountable.

We appreciate both Jim Joyce, an accountable umpire, and Armado Galarraga, a forgiving professional athlete. They have taught us and left a legacy worth way more than nine innings of perfect baseball. We also appreciate Idaho's Congressional delegation for being accountable to Idaho citizens. Their records bear it out.



# SEARLE

Continued from page 2

grassroots policy development process. It begins with an idea and is then vetted by a county Farm Bureau's members. After research, discussion and revision, the idea becomes a policy statement that is then discussed at the district level. Idaho Farm Bureau has five districts made up of eight to ten counties each. If successful, the statement is moved forward and reviewed by our state resolutions committee. This committee puts each proposed policy to the test to determine if it's unique and sound. At that point the policy is put into a book and sent out to each county Farm Bureau. The counties review the book and prepare to debate at the annual meeting held during the first week of December each year. Two delegates from each county Farm Bureau are allowed to vote on all of the new proposed policies. Our members also review each existing policy.

Topics like genetic modification of crops and livestock, food labeling, animal rights, private property rights, the management of public land and natural resources are complicated but it's our charge to create sound policy that stands the test of time. Sound policy not only helps others understand our challenges, it solidifies a future for generations of farmers and ranchers whom will take the reins when we retire. In addition, our Farm Bureau policy book provides them with a road map on how to improve agriculture as George Washington wisely counseled.

There is no shortage of pertinent issues at the present time. American Farm Bureau established a committee over the past

year to receive input from state Farm Bureaus and make recommendations on the new farm bill. Farm bill negotiations are currently underway. We are hearing, once again, that this farm bill will be much different and more modern. American Farm Bureau President Zippy Duvall recently provided the following details about the next farm bill and the American Farm Bureau's priorities. As you read the words that follow I would like to challenge you as Idaho Farm Bureau volunteers to answer these two questions: Am I an active participant in the policy development process and am I taking an active role in improving agriculture both now and into the future?

"Because of low commodity prices, many of America's farmers and ranchers are struggling," said Duvall. "The risk management and safety net provisions of farm bills are most important in times like these."

Farm Bureau's goals for the next farm bill are to:

Protect current farm bill spending;

Maintain a unified farm bill that includes nutrition programs and farm programs together;

Ensure any changes to current farm legislation be an amendment to the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 or the Agricultural Act of 1949;

Prioritize our top funding concerns (risk management tools, which include both federal crop insurance and Title I commodity programs); and

Ensure programs are compliant with World Trade Organization agreements.

The AFBF board also presented the following farm policy recommendations based on these goals:

Allow farmers to select the "higher of" the five-year Olympic Average yield for the Agriculture Risk Coverage County Program or a simple 10-year average yield.

Increase the reference price used as a floor for the ARC-CO program by 5 percent for corn, soybeans, wheat, sorghum and other minor crops.

Support a cotton lint program and/or designating cotton seed as an "other oilseed" to make cotton eligible for Title I commodity support programs.

Improve the Dairy Margin Protection Program by supporting a package that contains the following provisions: a) a two-tiered

approach to providing a safety net for dairy by continuing to treat production of 4 million pounds of milk covered annually differently than more than 4 million pounds of production; b) increase the administrative fee from \$100 to \$300 for catastrophic level of protection; c) reduce premium rates 25 percent from the current rate for the first 4 million pounds of production history covered and increase premium rates 25 percent from the current rate for coverage above 4 million pounds; d) lower the maximum coverage level from \$8.00 to \$7.00; e) raise the catastrophic level from \$4.00 to \$4.50; and f) increase the feed ration formula for all producers by 10 percent.

Increase the \$20 million annual cap on livestock insurance products to \$75 million annually.

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# Logging Project Improves Forest Health

Article and photos by  
John Thompson

The infrastructure that supports logging, including mills, equipment and skilled workers, is mostly gone from most of rural Idaho.

Forest products remains an important part of the econ-

omy in the panhandle counties, but Endangered Species Act protections put in place in 1990 to save the spotted owl sounded a death knell for much of the industry. It shut down logging over vast swaths of the Pacific Northwest.

Although most of the skilled

loggers and entrepreneurs willing to invest in the timber industry moved on, the need for forest management didn't disappear.

Custer County logger Tim Kemery wants to see the timber industry revitalized in Idaho. Kemery believes if there is surety in the supply of logs, milling, and the many support jobs the timber industry supports, will come back and the state's rural economy will reap benefits.

Kemery is working on a Bureau of Land Management (BLM) Stewardship Contract project in the forest west of Challis. He's creating space between Douglas fir trees in a dense stand to enable sunlight to better penetrate the canopy. This helps the forest grow and gain in plant diversity, reduces the potential damage caused by wildfire and breaks up the insect and disease cycle.

During a recent tour sponsored by the Idaho Farm Bureau, Kemery discussed the ongoing project and the many ways it's providing benefits to the land.

"We are hoping it will become a program that is ongoing," Kemery said. "But that has not been decided yet. In Arizona and New Mexico they are thinning and treating a lot of acres because of massive wildfires. The wood is being utilized as firewood, which is a real hungry market right

now."

Kemery placed a per-acre bid with BLM and received the contract to thin 187 acres in three units. There are another 900 acres set to go up for bid. The contract requires 20-foot spacing between the remaining trees. All brush and trees taller than four feet are cut and the slash is scattered. The stumps are cut low, nearly at ground level. Kemery said the weight of snow will press the slash against the forest floor and help begin decomposition. The marketable timber cut from the stand is graded and stacked in decks. However, due to climate and other factors, the Douglas fir in this particular stand is relatively low value due to its height and higher than average taper.

Most of the marketable trees are being sawed into mine timbers. Kemery said the Iron Creek Mine near Salmon is buying all of the 8X8 and 4X6 timbers he can produce. Another mine getting ready to start up near Mackay is also interested in timbers, he said. The wood is also being sold for pole barns, house logs and firewood.

"Part of the product that we are providing to the BLM is undamaged residual trees," Kemery said. "We have to be super careful in the way we fell and skid the trees."

Thinning and careful handling of the excess wood



Tim Kemery is a logger, rancher and trapper. He is a member of the Custer County Farm Bureau Board of Directors. During a recent tour he discussed forest management and showed a forest thinning project that is part of a BLM Stewardship Contract.





A group of farmers, ranchers and federal officials discuss forest management practices during a tour held on August 2nd sponsored by Custer County Farm Bureau.

helps the health of the remaining trees and the small trees that will begin to grow after the treatment project is complete. Thinning facilitates sunlight to the forest floor and also breaks up the life cycle of the Tussock moth, the most troublesome insect in the area.

Kemery said thousands of Tussock moths swarm in the summer afternoons and it looks cloudy like a white haze. The pupa stage of this insect is a white worm that is laid in the bark of large trees. The worms drop out of the trees and need to land on young trees in the understory in order to survive. Thinning the forest helps break the cycle.

“Strengthening the stand of timber we are leaving behind is an investment in our future,” Kemery said.

Yet another benefit to the project is fire resiliency. The area of this particular stewardship contract borders the Frank Church River of No Return Wilderness Area. Firefighters can’t use modern firefighting methods inside wilderness boundaries. During the tour Kemery emphasized that it’s important to thin and treat forested areas surrounding wilderness areas to help reduce fire intensity.

Catastrophic wildfires often create so much heat that soils are sterilized which makes healing the forest after a fire an even bigger challenge. In thinned, managed forest areas, fires are much less intense because ladder fuels are reduced and the fire isn’t able to jump from tree to tree as easily.

“These projects are important because

they build resiliency into a stand of timber,” he said. “When we reduce fuel-load fires won’t burn as hot and the soil resource will be protected. That way you continue to build the soil and the stand is resilient against insects and disease.”

The biggest problem Kemery has encountered on the project relates to labor. He would like to have at least three loggers to fell trees and spread the slash but the cost of liability insurance and worker’s compensation insurance is prohibitive, he said. In addition, availability of people with logging experience is low and finding others willing to learn is even more difficult. It’s hard, dangerous work and they spend many nights in the forest rather than traveling home.



A group of ranchers and federal officials met in early August to tour a grazing allotment in Custer County.

# Ranchers, BLM Meet to Tour Morgan Creek Allotment

*Article and photo by John Thompson*

In 1976, there were about 30,000 head of cattle in Custer County. Today there are about half that many.

Restrictions applied by the U.S. Forest Service and Bureau of Land Management have taken cattle off of the land in Custer County and throughout the western states. Ranchers contend the restrictions, in many cases, are arbitrary.

A group of Custer County ranchers and state and federal agency land managers recently toured the Morgan Creek Allot-

ment west of Challis to discuss conflicts on federal land and to look at the health of the land.

Ranchers repeatedly questioned the federal officials about stubble height requirements along streams. They say the land is healthy and that is a long-term trend – a claim the BLM officials agreed with. However, stubble height requirements are limiting the number of cattle ranchers are allowed to turn out and that is threatening the future of several ranches.

In the Morgan Creek Allotment ranchers were penalized last year because stubble

height measurements were at 3.5 inches, rather than the required 4 inches. Ranchers who attended the tour said overall the allotment is healthy and to restrict grazing because of half inch arbitrary measurement of grass in a creek bottom is harmful to many families and the overall economy of Custer County.

In addition, the grazing allotment is restricted because of the presence of salmon, steelhead and bull trout but the reasoning behind the restrictions is admittedly dubious.

Tom Curet, Idaho Fish and Game Salmon



regional supervisor, said steelhead occasionally make it past a natural barrier in lower Morgan Creek but Chinook do not and have not been documented in the creek's upper reaches. Curet acknowledged that Idaho bull trout populations are healthy and the fish should not be receiving special management considerations. He added that bull trout populations in other parts of the Intermountain region are in danger, which is the reasoning behind the listing. Bull trout, chinook and steelhead are listed as threatened under the Endangered Species Act which requires special management restrictions that frequently result in cuts to the number of cattle allowed to graze on public land.

Ranchers believe that special restrictions for fish management in the drainage are illogical and unreasonable – especially in the case of bull trout when the numbers of fish present in Morgan Creek and many other rivers, indicate a healthy population.

Curet said Idaho is “lumped” with other regions in regard to bull trout management and in those other regions populations are not robust, which makes the potential for de-listing remote. However, the recent de-listing of the Yellowstone Grizzly Bear population gives hope that distinct population segments of other threatened or endangered species may be released from ESA oversight.

“There are over a million bull trout in Idaho,” Curet said. “They have never been in trouble in Idaho and never should have been listed.”

The latest Census of Agriculture, completed by USDA

in 2012, shows 16,400 cattle in Custer County. Estimates show each cow returns about \$900 per year to the respective ranches. Custer County is 96 percent federal land, which limits the tax base and in turn the services the County provides its residents. Economic return from cattle is one of the most important income sources in Custer County.

Ranchers and federal land managers discussed a few options for solving problems in the allotment during the tour. It was suggested that flash grazing, or high intensity, short duration grazing may be a solution along Morgan Creek. They agreed that the allotment is healthy from a land management perspective, but cows tend to congregate along streams because of feed availability and shade. Fencing along streams was also discussed as a possible solution.

Rancher and Morgan Creek permit holder Jim Martiny said stubble measurements are a poor indicator of range health. “We are managing the allotment in one small space as opposed to looking at the big picture,” he said. “In year’s past we haven’t met the stubble height standard in a couple of places along the creek and our numbers have been reduced because of that. The end result is we lose numbers because of a half of an inch of grass but in the long run the allotment isn’t gaining anything.”

Rancher Gary Chamberlain asked the federal officials on the tour to take a close look at Morgan Creek. “I want you to pay special attention to the grass right here,” he said. “Last year it was grazed down to 3.5 inches and to look at it today,

we didn’t hurt a thing.”

Regarding bull trout, steelhead and Chinook salmon, Chamberlain said ranchers are being forced to submit to more regulations that don’t and likely won’t ever provide any benefits to the fish or the land.

“We are told the range looks good and to keep doing what we’re doing but then every time we turn around we have new impositions put on us like stubble height,” Chamberlain said.

Todd Kuck, BLM Challis Field Manager, said the agency is focused on outcome-based grazing and sometimes the terms and conditions written in the permits “don’t necessarily get at the objectives we want out on the ground.” He said the BLM is looking into new projects and strategies that will help

meet the objectives they have set.

“We want to come up with objectives for allotments and management strategies that allow more flexibility to permittees on how they manage cattle,” Kuck said. “We do realize there are issues with restrictions in the permits and we are looking at that. It will take some work to come up with how we write objectives and how we monitor to show how we are meeting or measuring what we want the allotment to look like.”

Kuck added that permit holders in the Morgan Creek drainage are doing a “really good job of managing on the ground.” “We are going in the right direction as far as management here,” he said.

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# Junkyard to Gold Mine, Nampa Business Thrives

By Jake Putnam

On Highway 20-26 outside of Nampa it's hard to miss the upside-down green John Deere tractor mounted on a post 20 feet above a field of junk tractors.

It's equally hard - for some - to resist the lure of six acres of old tractor parts. For Treasure Valley farmers, Northwest Industrial Machine is a welcome landmark especially if you need parts for that old '48 Ford or the '63 International tractor.

In January of 2016 a group of young entrepreneurs bought the tractor wonderland, lock, stock and crankshaft. Now the business is taking off.

"We cleaned up the front office and started inventorying parts and putting them online. We have an online website and buyers can go there and shop. We're tied into eBay or people can buy from our website. We got new and used tractor parts and we're tied to all the distributors as well as all the new parts we bring in and sell," said Russell Fricke.

Northwest Industrial has a team that works day in and day out breaking down tractors, logging part numbers, photographing parts and putting them online. After a year and a half, they've only scratched the surface of this tractor-part goldmine.

"We got stuff all the way back from the two-cylinder tractors to the late 90 models in the yard. We're on the lookout for tractors to buy and there are a lot out there from this area. The demand is there and we know when we buy a tractor and we can make a quick turn on it," said Matt Moser.

The partners knew they were onto something when they bought the yard. Online auto-part websites for collector cars, airplanes and farm equipment have taken off and internet sales with easy shipping has brought new life to junkyards across the nation.

"What we're doing now is simple," said Moser. "Selling hard to find parts and buying tractors then tearing them down. We



An employee at Northwest Industrial Machine pulls parts for a customer recently.  
Photo by Steve Ritter

completely dismantle those tractors and put it on the internet and that's our online inventory."

In just a year and a half, with just word of mouth and Google searches, on-line receipts now account for 50 percent of the business.

"But it is increasing every single month," said Moser. "We expect online sales to be 80-90 percent in a year or two. We have six acres here and that's a lot of stuff we don't have on the shelves yet. We still have 30,000 square feet of buildings that we're

See *TRACTOR JUNKYARD* page 16



# WOTUS Comment Period Extended

Washington — Comments on the proposed rescinding of the controversial Waters of the U.S. rule are now due September 27.

The Environmental Protection Agency announced a 30-day extension in late August.

Comments on the proposed ending of the Obama-era WOTUS rule were originally due August 28 but that will be extended by the EPA to give environmental groups, in-

dustry advocates and the public more time to weigh in.

When the proposal was officially released, the 30-day comment was a point of contention for supporters of the Obama-era rule.

EPA has proposed rescinding the WOTUS rule and putting back in place the Clean Water Act guidance to the updated version from the Obama administration. It's not clear what the Trump administration will

propose to put in place but expectations are there will be a plan released some time later this year.

In developing the replacement for the WOTUS rule as part of a two-step process, EPA and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers "are consulting with state and local government officials, or their representative national organization" to gather information to develop that effort.





RIGHT: Madison County Farm Bureau President Dwight Little presents a scholarship check to Kennedy Blaser.



BELOW: The Zollinger family, ranchers from the Mackay area, hosted a solar eclipse event on August 21. About 1,000 people from several states camped on the Zollinger property for the weekend.  
*Photo Courtesy of Tyler Zollinger*





An assortment of front end parts for tractors at Northwest Industrial Machine in Nampa. Photo by Steve Ritter

going through. Those parts have been here for 30 years, add the junk yard and we have a lot of inventory. We're rotating that inventory with newer stuff so we can take care of hobbyists and also service farmers that need parts today."

Northwest Industrial has 16 employees right now and it is a mix of new age part pullers, inventory clerks and online, eBay marketers, all with infectious enthusiasm.

"We have an eBay manager that has 3 employees that do the listings," said Fricke. "We have people that just organize the parts and we have four shop guys. There's also a guy that does just the billing and all the aftermarket stuff like warranties."

Russell Fricke says the company offers an affordable farm machinery alternative for big and small operations.

"We sell reconditioned lawn mowers, swathers, combines and the tractors," said Fricke. "We buy them, inspect them and put warranties on the reconditioned machinery. The machinery has everything new from the engines and rebuilt transmissions and even new front-end loaders on them. They have new wheels and tires, the four-wheel drives have all been rebuilt. We have everything from 18 horsepower to 52 horsepower in the restored line and the

best thing for our buyers is that we have all the parts for the rebuilt equipment. We sell our cheapest tractors for about \$9,800 up to \$16,500 on the restored line and we've got quite a selection."

Northwest Industrial is easily found on a Google search. In the old days the yard was visited by desperate Canyon County farmers in search of parts for rare machinery. Now Northwest also deals with African, Asian and European farmers looking for parts.

"When you use online marketing almost immediately you have a voice in the international market," said Northwest Marketing Director Chris Christofi. "So you go from selling things here in the Treasure Valley to being able to sell parts in Russia. The potential is limitless and the challenge of it is being able to reach worldwide buyers while at the same time marketing ourselves as the best retail option out there."

From an obscure junkyard on Highway 20/26 to the information highway, the business breathes new life into the community.

"We took the business to the world," said Christofi. "We just shipped a starter this morning to England. Last week we sent some stuff to Eastern Europe. Lately we've been sending a lot of our engines to up-

state New York. There is a lot of farming that goes on there and they're using older, smaller tractors on small farming operations and if we can get it in a container we can ship it out."

Christofi says customer ratings and feedback can make or break an internet businesses in today's business world.

"One of the things we are really proud of is that our internet business has 100-percent positive feedback scores. We strive to keep our customers happy. It is hard at times but we've done a good job at keeping that 100 percent happy so far and we have customers that keep coming back. The biggest part of our success has been online word of mouth," added Christofi.

Moser admits that at times he has to pinch himself. He says Northwest Industrial is in the right place at the right time.

"It's a great business. I see a lot of potential and we can grow this into a 30-employee business real easy. I think all of those brands we have, and they still have value with collectors and on the farm. This nation made good tractors and we want to keep them alive. Around here John Deere seems to be the favorite but for me it's Massey Ferguson. I love them all because they were built to last," said Moser.





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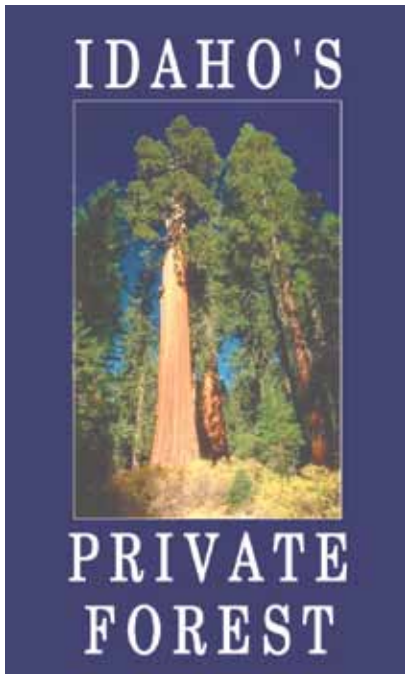
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# Brown Needles - Are My Trees Dying?

good growth 3 years ago, putting on abundant needles, that needle-drop can look dramatic, but dropping those old needles helps the tree.

Needle diseases visible in spring. A variety

of diseases infect needles. The most commonly noticed needle diseases are those visible on pines in the spring. It is usually worse in the lower parts of younger trees and in draws or low-lying areas where hu-

*Article and photos by Chris Schnepf*

Most people love healthy green tree foliage. When a tree's foliage becomes less green, or worse yet brown, people are understandably concerned about tree and forest health.

Extension offices across Idaho frequently get calls about brown conifer needles, especially in the fall and spring. Brown needle causes vary from normal tree physiology to a wide range of insects and diseases. Unless the whole tree is brown, some brown needles are not necessarily a problem.

Fall needle drop. Deciduous trees drop all their leaves every fall. But non-deciduous conifers drop leaves too – they just don't drop them all every year. Older conifer needles are less photosynthetically efficient than younger needles, as they are often shaded by newer foliage. Conifers drop these older needles because those needles take more energy from the tree to stay green than the tree gets in return.

Trees vary in how many needles they keep on the tree. Some conifer species can keep 4 or more age-classes of needles. Needle drop on lodgepole, ponderosa, and white pines is often most noticeable, because every fall, three-year needles turn brown and eventually drop. If a pine had particularly



Three-year-old pine needles turn brown and drop every fall.



midity is higher. One of the most dramatic examples is *Lophodermella concolor*, which sometimes affects whole mountainsides of lodgepole pine at high elevations. Sometimes in the spring it can look like a whole lodgepole forest is dying, until the new growth comes on shortly thereafter. Most pine needle diseases are worse in the lower and interior parts of the tree - the least efficient needles on the tree. Sometimes they look terrible, but trees almost always survive needle diseases.

An exception occurs for trees planted from seed sources which were too far removed from the site to be adapted to it ("off-site"

trees). These trees are often more dramatically affected by or even killed by needle diseases. Therefore, needle diseases could be a way to monitor changing climate. If needle diseases are killing many naturally regenerated trees, it may be time to consider assisting the migration of better adapted seed sources to that site.

Brown branch tips. Various insects and diseases can turn individual branch tips brown. Some of the most common issues with pines are gouty pitch midge, pine shoot borer, *Diplodia* tip blight, and western gall rust. Some small bark beetle species also kill Douglas-fir branch tips. These

organisms usually only kill a few branches or tips - they almost never kill a tree, unless it is seedling-size. They are generally considered non-economic pests in the context of forest management.

Larch commonly has needle issues in the spring. Western larch needle issues are usually caused by three factors: larch needle cast, larch needle blight, and larch case bearer. Larch needle cast starts as small yellow-brown spots which grow and eventually cause the whole needle to turn brown and fall off the tree. Larch needle blight wilts whole clusters of needle downward (they look melted, like a Salvador Dali painting), eventually turning them brown. Larch case bearers are tiny insects that mine the inside of needles, turning them straw-colored and crinkling the tips. It is quite possible to have all three operating in the same larch tree at once. Some years are worse than others, but these maladies can look dramatic, particularly case-bearer. Luckily, none of these usually kill the tree. The wonderful thing about larch (in addition to root disease tolerance) is that it continues to grow new needles through the growing season. Trees that look brown in the spring are usually re-needled by mid-summer. The only impact might be slightly reduced stem diameter growth.

Bark beetles? Root disease? If both new and old needles are not a healthy green, a tree is probably being affected by something other than needle maladies. If the whole tree fades over a period of years, it is likely root disease. If the whole tree turns brown within 6 months, it is more likely bark beetles. But if the symptoms are more like those described previously in this article, the tree will likely survive. Consider waiting before starting a salvage sale or cutting such trees for firewood.

If you are not sure, bring a fresh sample (and/or perhaps photos of the tree) into your local University of Idaho Extension or Idaho Department of Lands office.

*Chris Schnepf is an area extension educator – forestry – for the University of Idaho in Bonner, Boundary, Kootenai and Benewah counties. He can be reached at [cschnepf@uidaho.edu](mailto:cschnepf@uidaho.edu).*



Planted trees from poorly-adapted seed sources often have more needle disease issues.

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Proceeds benefit Idaho FFA Members through post-secondary education scholarships and support of Idaho FFA programs statewide through the Idaho FFA Foundation. **\$107,000** in scholarships has been awarded to date and another \$20,000 in scholarships will be awarded in April 2018.

In addition, the local FFA chapters designated on the winning tickets will receive a portion of the total ticket proceeds.

Tickets may be purchased from your local FFA chapter or the Idaho FFA Foundation. **The drawing will be on April 6, 2018** at the Idaho State FFA Leadership Conference in Twin Falls. **Need not be present to win.**

*This restored tractor includes a loader and a rear blade.*

*Contact your local Idaho FFA Chapter for Tractor Raffle tickets, or call Idaho FFA Foundation Tractor Raffle Chairman Sid Freeman at 208-941-3584. For more information about the Tractor Raffle, visit: [www.idffafoundation.org](http://www.idffafoundation.org)*

## 2017 Tractor Raffle Scholarships Winners—\$20,000 Total

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Randy Clements, Madison FFA Chapter

### \$1,000 Scholarships:

Robert Allison, Middleton FFA Chapter  
Danielle Church, Fruitland FFA Chapter  
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FFA—Premier Leadership, Personal Growth and Career Success through Agricultural Education



# Focus on Agriculture

## 15 Fantastic Food and Farm Facts

By *Cyndie Shearing*

Producing a bounty of food, fiber for clothes and renewable fuels for cars is a vast agricultural undertaking and one that few consumers today know much about. That's not surprising, considering that most Americans are three or more generations removed from farming.

Although most of us aren't involved in full-time food production, it can still be fun – and educational – to ponder facts about how modern farmers and ranchers go about their work. That's where *Food and Farm Facts*, a publication from the American Farm Bureau Foundation for Agriculture, comes in.

"Food and Farm Facts provides the opportunity to learn about the many ways modern farmers produce food to meet the needs of today's consumers," explained Foundation Chairman Zippy Duvall, who also serves as president of the American Farm Bureau Federation.

The 32-page, full-color book features hundreds of updated agriculture facts and easy-to-read infographics organized into sections: Consumers, Modern Farmers,

Trade & Economics, Environment and Production.

Fifteen fantastic facts about agriculture to whet your appetite for the *Food and Farm Facts* book are below.

- Ninety-nine percent of all U.S. farms are owned by individuals, family partnerships or family corporations.
- Farmers will have to grow 70 percent more food than what is currently produced to feed the world's growing population by 2050.
- Each American farmer produces food and fiber for 165 people annually, both in the U.S. and abroad.
- Eight percent of U.S. farms market foods locally through farmers' markets and food hubs.
- One day's production for a high-producing dairy cow yields 10.5 pounds of cheese.
- Women make up 30 percent of today's farmers.
- More than 20 percent of all farmers are beginning farmers.
- There are 257,454 millennial farmers.

- Texas has 248,809 farms, more than any other state in the nation.

- About 25 percent of all U.S. agricultural products by value are exported yearly.

- Careful stewardship by America's farmers spurred a 44 percent decline in erosion of cropland by wind and water since 1982.

- One-third of the U.S. or 750 million acres, is covered with trees.

- Many of the products we use in our everyday lives are byproducts of food produced by America's farmers and ranchers – everything from detergents and paints to X-ray film and crayons, textbooks, chalk and strings for musical instruments.

- An acre of land is about the same size as a football field.

- Biotechnology saved the Hawaiian papaya industry after a virus nearly wiped the crop out.

Order the *Food and Farm Facts* book and related resources online.

*Cyndie Shearing is Director of Internal Communications at American Farm Bureau Federation.*



## Rural Groups Call for Representation on Trump's Infrastructure Council

The nation's rural towns, cities and counties—and their unique challenges—should be represented on the Presidential Advisory Council on Infrastructure, the American Farm Bureau Federation and more than 200 other rural and agriculture organizations wrote in a recent [letter to Pres. Donald Trump](#).

Trump established the council in July by [executive order](#) and directed the group to provide a report to him addressing federal support for surface transportation, aviation, ports and waterways, water resources, renewable energy, electricity transmission, broadband, pipelines and other sectors. According to the executive order, the

council will be composed of no more than 15 members with experience in real estate, finance, construction, communications, regional and local economic development and other areas.


“In order to ensure the council's report is as comprehensive as possible, we urge you to consider the

voices of our rural communities,” the Rebuild Rural Coalition wrote. “Including representatives from rural America in the council will help to ensure that the infrastructure needs of all Americans are taken into full consideration upon developing these vital recommendations.”



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# Using the Futures Market to Create Opportunity



**Clark Johnston**

*By Clark Johnston*

Since the last time that we talked the Chicago December wheat futures have done nothing except trend lower to the tune of \$1.50 per bushel. Now the question on everyone's mind is, have we missed our opportunity to sell near the high for this crop year? The answer to this question can only be answered correctly in the months ahead. After all we never know the high for the year until we are able to look back over the course of that year.

Having said this when we look at the current news in the market we could say that the high for the year has come and gone back in the first week in July. That doesn't mean there still couldn't be good levels to contract at during this upcoming fall and early winter.

At this time the technical studies are indicating that the market is oversold thus giving us the potential for the market to move back to the upside. Over the past fifteen years the trend has been for the December wheat futures to strengthen during the month of October. This along with a strengthening basis during the same time frame could give you another opportunity to contract wheat before the end of the year.

The carry charge in the Chicago wheat market is still in place and paying a decent per month carry for you to contract your wheat for delivery in one of the deferred months. The carry charge from December futures to March is currently trading at 23 cents per bushel. This would pay you just

a little over 3 cents per month to contract your wheat for delivery in February. This may not look like much on the surface but remember what happened last spring when the flour mills contracted their demand early and then exited the local market leaving just a few elevators to contract your wheat.

Every marketing year is different and this year is no exception. Many of you kept an eye on the market and contracted some of your 2018 crop the first part of July when the futures were at a good level. You were able to contract at levels near or at \$5 per bushel which should work well in your budget. Look at the difference in those 2018 new crop prices and the current market bids. This is what trading into the carry charge in the market can do for you.

Even if you can't find an elevator or mill that will contract for 2018 you can still take advantage of the carry charge in the market by trading futures contracts. I know, trading futures is risky business. However, most of the horror stories we hear about people losing large amounts of money trading futures is because they became speculators and didn't remain hedgers. They didn't remain within the hedging parameters they had in place before they entered into the market. If they didn't have their own personal guidelines in place before they started they should have.

Let's take a look at just how this would work for you. The Chicago December 2018 futures are trading in the neighborhood of \$5 per bushel. You would sell one

contract of Chicago 2018 wheat at \$5 (this would be 5,000 bushels). Now you have locked in the futures side of your pricing equation and need to watch the basis for your opportunity to lock in your cash price. The current basis for soft white is 60 under the futures price. If the basis next September is the same as the current level you would be able to final price this 5,000 bushels at \$4.40 per bushel, which is considerably higher than the current cash bid.

I know it seems as though all I do is harp on using the futures markets to aid you in your marketing plan but you really need to know how to use them in order to give yourself an opportunity to be profitable each year. How you produce your crops has changed over the years and how you produce quite frankly changes from year to year and also the way you market your commodities should change from year to year depending on what the market is allowing you to do. I will explain "what the market is allowing you to do" in the months ahead.

*Clark Johnston is a grain marketing specialist who is on contract with the Idaho Farm Bureau. He is the owner of JC Management Company in Northern Utah. He can be reached at [clark@jcmanagement.net](mailto:clark@jcmanagement.net)*





Workers run the last of the 2016 potato crop at Rigby Produce.

# 2016 Spud Packing Season Ends

*Article and photo by Jake Putnam*

Rigby Produce recently reached a milestone. The 2016 season ended in mid-August and the new crop is ready to come to market soon.

“We’re just finishing out the 2016 crop and we’re done as of today” said Stephanie Mickelsen, CFO of Mickelsen Farms. “Starting this week we’ll start the 2017 crop through the warehouse and packing shed and start shipping potatoes throughout the United States.”

Mickelsen says Rigby Produce will transition right into the 2017 season without a break.

“There will be no down time this year. We seem to go have gone from one season to the next. In the past we’ve had a week or two but there’s no downtime from when we finish the crop and start with the new,” said Mickelsen.

Last year Idaho producers planted 325,000 acres of potatoes, with good size but only fair prices. Mickelsen says the 2017 crop is different.

Since 2000, the average national price for fresh potatoes has ranged from a low of \$7.34 per hundredweight for the 2003 crop to a high of \$14.44 for the 2008 crop, according to the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

Following the cycle of one to two years of high prices, followed by a period of low prices, potatoes were primed for higher prices this marketing year, according to Ryan Larsen, an extension farm management specialist at Utah

*See SPUD PACKING SEASON page 31*



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Members of the U.S. Government's Office of Advocacy recently toured Big D Ranch in Ada County.

# An Additional Tool of Advocacy

*By Braden Jensen*

Farming and ranching are among the most challenging occupations that exist, requiring the most of the world's greatest men and women. Facing pressures and obstacles that would surely crush most any other person, farmers and ranchers continue to do what they love while remaining to be the world's greatest stewards of the land.

However, when asked about the most challenging aspect of being a producer, the common response is complying with government regulation. That is why many of you choose to be members of the Farm Bureau, to help combat government overreach and over-regulation.

As members of the Farm Bureau, we belong to one of the state and nation's most influential agriculture advocacy organizations. We labor tirelessly to keep government from overstepping its bounds, and ensure that people can make an honest living doing what they love. We do all we can from our position outside of the government and use a variety of resources to make our voice heard.

Recently, we came across an additional resource that gives us an insider's position to make certain that our message gets through the seemingly impenetrable bureaucratic wall of communication.

Operating under congressional author-

ity, the Office of Advocacy is an independent voice for small businesses within the federal government. They serve as a watchdog, ensuring that government regulations are not overly burdensome and grievous for small businesses. Idaho's own Senator, Jim Risch, Chairman of the Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship, directly oversees Advocacy's dealings.

Now, we all understand that farms and ranches are much more than just small businesses; they make up our livelihoods, our homes and our families. However, Advocacy's position inside the government provides our farms and ranches with another tool to reach

*See OFFICE OF ADVOCACY page 29*

# Can American Agriculture Stand Together?

By Randy Krotz, USFRA CEO

There are real threats to farming and ranching in America.

Many well-funded forces want to drive as much animal agriculture out of business as possible - and with it, row crop production throughout our heartland. There are those who want consumers to turn their backs on the science and technology that improves food production because they are afraid of the unfamiliar, because "it isn't the way our grandparents farmed." This jaded view of agriculture, this unacquainted and cynical view of our farms and ranches has become mainstream. Perpetual and growing voices accuse farmers of harming the environment, and use half-truths and sensationalism to spread fear. Notably, there are food companies making decisions counter to what is best for our land, our animals, our society because of activist pressures.

And yet, our strong and independent farming and ranching families work hard every day to evolve. We adapt and strive for improvement, especially when it comes to sustainability and animal care. We put science first and look to the future, not the past. Yet, as the backbone of our rural communities, we are often misunderstood, stereotyped and disadvantaged by distance from food concerned populations and urban media.

American farmers are fiercely independent. It is what makes us competitive and strong. We are entrepreneurs and small business owners who manage through thin profit margins and unpredictability. Our land, and in some cases our farm animals, are vulnerable to Mother

Nature and we oftentimes find ourselves at her mercy. Our hearts and prayers are with those in Texas that are currently experiencing such catastrophic effects from the weather.

But is it possible that this independent spirit also has a downside when it comes to telling our story? Do we splinter because we want to "do it our way" even when that means fewer resources to defend our practices and fight for the right to use technology? We seem hesitant to raise our voices together, as one.

There are currently dozens of separate efforts to "inform and educate" the public about farming and build trust in American agriculture. Many of these programs are smart. But most struggle to be properly funded, especially during a downturn in commodity prices. However, those organizations that demonize modern agricultural practices are not splintered in their well-organized efforts. Agriculture would be well-served to join arms and combine our resources.

U.S. Farmers and Ranchers Alliance (USFRA)® was created by farm, commodity and agri-business groups with the purpose of rebuilding consumer trust in American agriculture. Trust is the cornerstone of consumer purchase decisions, and trust allows farmers and ranchers to produce food in a manner that is environmentally sustainable, while utilizing SMART and modern production practices. We speak to consumers through the voice of our farmers and ranchers from across the country. Duplicating this effort as a partner enhances our core program's effectiveness; duplicating it as a separate entity may dras-



Randy Krotz

tically diminish it.

USFRA strives to represent all aspects of farming and ranching. We don't promote one commodity over another. We believe in diversity of production methods - but also science and technology. Our goal is to earn the trust of the American public for all of agriculture. In many ways, we are defending the rights of farmers and ranchers to exist in America. Again, those out to destroy American agriculture are well coordinated, well resourced, and close to urban populations and media.

As Henry Ford once said, "Coming together is a beginning, keeping together is progress, working together is success."

Let us work to combine resources. Let us stand as one to tell our story.



# OFFICE OF ADVOCACY

Continued from page 27

the government's ears and deliver our message.

In fiscal year 2016, Advocacy was successful in eliminating two requirements of the Environmental Protection Agency's proposed Agriculture Worker Protection Standards, saving American farmers an estimated \$10.3 million annually. They also helped convince the Department of Labor to reconsider proposed wage increases to the H-2A program, an estimated cost savings of \$3.8 million annually to producers according to Advocacy's own economic research. A full report of the agency's work over the past fiscal year can be found at: [https://www.sba.gov/sites/default/files/advocacy/2016\\_RFA\\_Annual\\_Report.pdf](https://www.sba.gov/sites/default/files/advocacy/2016_RFA_Annual_Report.pdf).

Recently, Advocacy held roundtable events in Boise and Coeur d'Alene where staffers from the office heard directly from small businesses. These Advocacy staffers heard loud and

clear from the agriculture and natural resource industries regarding troublesome federal regulations that impact us all (e.g. WOTUS, FIFRA, FSMA, NEPA, ESA, Agriculture Worker Protection Standards, etc.).

Advocacy staffers then toured local operations and businesses to witness firsthand the obstacles faced by owners. Richard and Neil Durant hosted four Advocacy staffers on their operation, Big D Ranch near Kuna, showing them around and discussing the unnecessary or overly stringent hurdles placed by federal agencies. This tour not only exposed Advocacy to the beauty of Idaho and Idaho agriculture, but also to the trials that are faced by our producers.

Understandably, not everyone was able to attend the roundtable events, yet it is still important to make your voice heard. Ask yourself the question, "what federal regulations are mak-

ing it difficult to operate my farm or ranch?" If you would like to raise your concern, the Office of Advocacy has a website where any small businessman can submit a form at any time explaining a rule or regulation that is overly burdensome and creating difficulty. This forum can be accessed at: <https://www.sba.gov/advocacy/regulatory-reform-input>.

It is easier for this agency to advocate on our behalf once they have witnessed and heard directly from the regulated community. This resource serves our members as one more tool in the box to make our voices heard in Washington. Nevertheless, the tool is only good if we actually put it in our hands and use it.

*Braden Jensen is the Idaho Farm Bureau's energy and natural resource specialist. He can be reached at [bjensen@idahofb.org](mailto:bjensen@idahofb.org)*

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For online purchases, click the Idaho Farm Bureau discount portal on the next page.





# SPUD PACKING SEASON

Continued from page 25

State University. He looked at three different forecasts earlier this year.

The USDA's first forecast was for \$6 per hundredweight later another source had a moving average of \$6.50 to \$6.60 per hundredweight, while the third ranged from \$7 to \$8.

"If you're looking for a bright spot, potatoes have a good chance of breaking even," said Larsen. "And if acres are down, we can add onto that."

While that's a far cry from the 2008 year, growers that can capitalize on market timing can capture high prices as some did in 2015 and 2016. Growers also had good weather that produced a uniform crop the past two years. Eighty-two percent of the crop graded

No. 1, that's up from 73.7 percent in 2015.

"I think 2017 is going to be a bit more challenging than last year. The crop is two weeks behind schedule because of the type of spring we have had. The size is just not going to be there but it should mean a better market for growers this fall," added Mickelsen.

The USDA reports that Idaho's 2016-17 crop held steady with marketing through the year. The top shipment months were September (12% of annual marketings), October (12%), April (11%), March (9%) and May (9%). The comparatively lower volume months were July (6%) and this past August that is just wrapping up (6%).

"I think we should see higher prices than in '17 because of the challenges we've had with the growing season and we need that to make up for the past three to four years of low prices we've had in the potato market," said Mickelsen.

A five-week heat wave stretching from July to mid-August stressed potatoes. One farmer said he's doing everything he can to revive what he calls tired plants.

"I think that's a very fair assessment," said Mickelsen. "They're tired this summer, especially lately because it's extremely hot. We've had weeks and weeks of heat and dry temperatures."



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# Fuel Prices Respond to Hurricane Harvey

By Jake Putnam

At least 10 refineries have shut down in the Houston areas and gasoline prices could jump 10 percent or more by Labor Day weekend, due to Hurricane Harvey.

AAA reports that the price hike is expected to be temporary, if refineries can get back up and running. But there is a risk that prices could go much higher with damage to refineries and pipelines or if it takes a long time to bring the refineries back on line.

More than two million barrels of refining capacity were taken off line, as the storm pounded Texas with heavy rain and flooding.

Industry analysts expect to see gas prices start going up soon as retailers make adjustments to rising wholesale prices.

The Gulf Coast could see prices jump approximately 15 cents to 30 cents per gallon. Prices for some parts of the Midwest like Michigan, Indiana and Ohio will probably rise about 15 to 25 cents. Idaho could jump as much as 30 cents.

Gas prices in the Coeur d'Alene area are pushing the \$2.50 per gallon mark, Boise is at \$2.75 and Pocatello at \$2.65 during the last week of August.

Farmer Eric Hasslestrom of Winchester says with flat markets, input costs are already cutting into thin profit margins.

"Gas prices going up right at harvest is not a good thing," he said. "I got the wheat in already, hopefully I can get the garbanzo beans in before they really go up."

Tom Kloza of Oil Price Information Service thinks motorists could see a 10 to 15 cent rise in the national average at \$2.36 per gallon of unleaded fuel. According to AAA, the price of unleaded gasoline increased three cents per gallon during the last week of August.

Analysts said it is unclear if Houston area refineries have had serious flood damage as of press time for this magazine. Those refineries account for 16-percent of the U.S. fuel sup-

ply. Operators are not providing much information and it is unclear how soon workers will be able to return but refineries are closed.

"There's some catching up to do. Corpus Christi looks as though everything is fine, and they're restarting in two or three days. Bottom line is less than week's-worth of refining capacity was lost in Corpus and it's coming back," Kloza said.

After hurricanes such as Katrina, Rita, Ike and Isaac, gasoline prices peaked within two weeks of landfall, at 20 to 80 cents per gallon higher, according to PIRA Energy.

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A farmer harvests wheat on the Palouse Prairie. Growers across the state say yields are down some this year but quality is good.

Photo by Steve Ritter

## 2017 Wheat crop: Good Quality, Lower Yields

By Jake Putnam

Combines across the state are heading for the barn.

Idaho's 2017 wheat harvest is finishing up on the last dry-land farms in Caribou, Bannock and Bingham counties.

"Southwest Idaho is 100-percent in," said Blaine Jacobson of the Idaho Wheat Commission.

"Statewide we're better than 95-percent in. There's some harvesting on the dry farms in eastern Idaho. The farms outside of Soda Springs are just finishing up winter wheat and starting spring wheat. Farms in Bingham, Bannock and Bonneville counties still have spring wheat out. Up north around Grangeville, there's a few still harvesting," added Jacobson.

The first hard white wheat was harvested in Canyon County Aug. 1, that's the earliest harvest date Jacobson remembers in all his years at the Commission.

"It's been hot and it ripened up the crop. Once the crop started to grow we didn't have the wild swings or excessive moisture at harvest. Those are the primary factors of falling numbers, so there will be no falling numbers this year in Idaho," said Jacobson.

Jacobson says there is no evidence of falling numbers anywhere in the state.

"All the numbers are high 300's even in the low 400's. I haven't heard of anywhere in the state with falling number. I think we're all relieved," said Jacobson.

Falling number is a test that measures starch damage in wheat that reduces the quality of

baked goods and noodles. Idaho farmers were caught off guard last year when nearly 44 percent of soft white wheat samples and 42 percent of club wheat samples tested below 300, the industry standard. The Wheat Commission says Idaho farmers lost more than \$30 million in lower prices last year.

Eric Hasselstrom farms just over 2,000 acres of wheat, barley and garbanzo beans outside of Winchester. He finished wheat harvest in mid-August.

"Our fields in Nezperce averaged about 75-95 bushels to the acre," he said. "At our Craigmont fields we did just 65 bushels. Last year I had 140 bushels per acre but that's not normal. So production is off and thankfully the quality is very good and the

See *WHEAT HARVEST* page 35

## Poll: Tax Reform Needed for Farmers and America

A commanding majority of American voters support tax reform, a nationwide poll shows, while most voters also support tax changes that would benefit America's farm and ranch families.

The survey conducted by Morning Consult found that seven out of 10 voters agreed passing tax reform legislation should be a priority for Congress. More than half of voters polled also expressed support for specific tax reform provisions that would benefit farmers and ranchers, such as:

Allowing farmers to deduct machinery purchases in the year those purchases are made;

Allowing farmers and ranchers to average their income;

Decreasing capital gains taxes; and

Repealing the estate tax.

"Americans are ready for tax reform, and many know the toll that taxes take on our farm and ranch families," AFBF President Zippy Duvall said. "Congress must take action to provide tax relief, and farmers and ranchers will be sharing that message with their lawmakers until this job gets done."

Tax rates are one key area ripe for reform, according to the Morning Consult poll. A majority of voters polled (63 percent) say federal income tax rates are too high. Seventy-two percent of voters support lower federal income tax rates for farmers, a matter supported strongly across party lines. There was even greater support for lower federal income tax rates for individuals (82 percent), small businesses (80 percent) and family owned businesses (77 percent).

By a 3-1 margin (52-18 percent) voters overwhelmingly recognize that the current U.S. tax system is unfair to farmers in many regards. Two in three voters went so far as to say that farmers and ranchers

should be extended special tax treatment due to the combination of challenges and risks that are specific to agriculture. That sentiment was shared across party lines.

The poll also included the following findings concerning specific tax provisions:

A strong majority (73 percent) supports the ability of small businesses to write off business-related expenses.

Voters overwhelmingly support (81-7 percent) allowing small businesses to deduct equipment purchases in the year the purchase is made.

Voters support reducing the capital gains tax (54- 26 percent).

Three in five voters (61-18 percent) say farmland that is sold to a member of the next generation should be exempt from capital gains taxes.

Three in five voters (60-23 percent) say farmers or small businesses should not pay taxes on equipment sales if money goes toward replacement.

By a 17-point margin, voters say farmers should not pay taxes when they sell farmland and use the money to buy different farmland.

A strong majority (64 percent) supports repealing the estate tax.

Three in four voters (74 percent) support allowing farmers to deduct interest paid on business loans.

Three in five voters (58-19 percent) said farmers and ranchers should be allowed to average their incomes for tax purposes due to wide variations in annual income.

Morning Consult conducted the online survey of 1,996 registered voters from July 20 - July 24, 2017, on behalf of AFBF. Results from the full survey have a margin of error of +/- 2%.

More information about agriculture and tax reform is available at: [www.fb.org/taxreform](http://www.fb.org/taxreform).





## Members of Congress Support Protecting Farmers and Ranchers from Crushing Regulatory Burdens

On Tuesday, 30 members of Congress signed and sent a letter to the chairmen and ranking members of the House committees on Natural Resources and Agriculture requesting that they work together to address the numerous regulatory inefficiencies and statutory road-

blocks in the agriculture community. They urged the committees to modernize the Endangered Species Act and similarly outdated laws and regulations.

The letter references how Farm Bureau has repeatedly attested to the disproportionate and often unneces-

sary challenges faced by the agriculture community due to burdensome regulatory regulations.

Wisconsin Farm Bureau President Jim Holte's testimony earlier this year before the Senate also is mentioned. Holte told senators, "[The ESA] imposes far-

reaching regulatory burdens on agriculture. Farmers and ranchers consider it their personal responsibility to be stewards of the land; however, the ESA creates many challenges for them to balance agriculture production with wildlife habitat."

## WHEAT HARVEST

Continued from page 33

test weights are heavy."

The lower Palouse had a very wet, long winter, just two weeks of spring and then summer hit. Hasselstrom said the rain turned off like a faucet and the bushel count shows it.

"There's a lot of 30-40 bushel wheat around here and that's tough. Thankfully I have crops up here in a lot of different places both in the hills and down in the prairie," said Hasselstrom.

Statewide early numbers show that quality and yields are excellent on most of the winter wheat.

"The spring crop was so late, it went in late and it didn't get enough moisture before we got the hot temperatures. The heat stressed the crop and our spring harvest is not going to be what it is normally. That's where the lower yields are coming in this year so far on the spring wheat," said Jacobson.

The real factor for Idaho's 2017

crop according to Jacobson is the protein content of wheat. Some producers are getting protein bonuses.

"We got the desirable low protein on our soft white wheat, but our hard red winter is also low-protein, and that's not so desirable," he said. Overall, protein levels are good across the wheat classes, and yields are down a little from last year, Jacobson said. Quality is good.

But Hasselstrom says in his part of the state with lower yields it is going to be tight.

"It's been a tough one this year with the hard winter and hot summer and a flat market. It's not going to be a fun fall when it's time to do our year end refinancing," said Hasselstrom.

According to the Idaho Wheat Commission, average test weights are coming in at 61 to 62 pounds per bushel statewide.

"We don't have an overall yield average yet. We were told by

elevators in southern Idaho that yields are at the five-year average. This is both winter and spring wheat. We thought they'd be less. But in northern Idaho and southwest Idaho the overall yields are down just 10 percent from the five-year average. Everything is off from the bumper year, but there are farmers out there that are still having bumper crops. As an average we are not close to matching up to last year," said Jacobson.

Hasselstrom says he's not thrilled with market prices and if prices hold at these levels there's little room for profit right now.

Soft white wheat prices range from \$4.96 to \$5.27 per bushel at Portland. Hard red winter wheat is \$4.50 to \$4.80 per bushel. Dark northern spring wheat is \$7.50 to \$9.06 per bushel, depending on the protein content.

Jacobson says prices are undervalued and things could change

dramatically on the world market later this fall, especially when the Midwest wheat comes in.

"I think there'll be upward pressure on prices as traders evaluate the crop and get a better handle on inventory," he said. "I don't know if there's as much inventory out there as being reported. The Canadian harvest is running behind schedule. They were having problems in the Dakotas with drought and they might have a smaller crop. Australia has had drought problems so I think these factors will affect the market place."

If one thing is consistent statewide, Jacobson says Idaho has quality wheat.

"Overall, the crop is terrific this year. Other than the issues with spring wheat this is a quality year, and overall it's probably one of our better crops," said Jacobson.

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## FARM BUREAU COMMODITY REPORT

GRAIN PRICES	7/21/2017	8/24/2017	Trend
<b>PORTLAND:</b>			
Soft White Wheat	5.34-5.48	4.84-5.25	- .50 to - .23
Hard Red Winter	5.76-5.91	4.40 – 4.75	- 1.36 to - 1.16
14% DNS	8.65-8.85	7.30 – 7.60	- 1.35 to - 1.25
Oats	215.00	215.00	Steady

<b>OGDEN:</b>			
Soft White Wheat	4.24	3.59	- .65
Hard Red Winter	4.51	3.58	- .93
DNS	7.35	6.43	- .92
Barley	5.46	6.20	+ .74

<b>BLACKFOOT/ IDAHO FALLS</b>			
Soft White Wheat	3.70	3.40	- .30
Hard Red Winter	4.60	3.75	- .85
14% DNS	7.40	6.05	- 1.35
Hard White	4.80	4.20	- .60

<b>BURLEY:</b>			
Soft White Wheat	3.95	3.60	- .35
Hard Red Winter	3.50	3.50	Steady
DNS	7.18	6.10	- 1.08
Barley	4.90	5.50	+ .60

<b>MERIDIAN:</b>			
White Wheat(cwt)	4.40	3.95	- .45

<b>LEWISTON:</b>			
White Wheat	5.25	4.75	- .50
Hard Red Winter	5.51	4.88	- .63
Dark N. Spring	8.50	7.53	- .97
Barley	111.50	111.50	Steady

LIVESTOCK PRICES	7/20/2017	8/25/2017	Trend
<b>FEEDER STEERS</b>			
Under 500 lbs	150-187	135 – 188	-15 to + 1
500-700 lbs	140-175	125 – 180	-15 to +5
700-900 lbs	119-156	97 – 150	-22 to -6
Over 900 lbs	119-143	88 – 136	-31 to -7

<b>FEEDER HEIFERS</b>			
Under 500 lbs	140-167	130 – 175	-10 to +8
500-700 lbs	131-162	114 – 151	-17 to -11
700-900 lbs	120-143	110 – 138	-10 to -5
Over 900 lbs	90-120	100 – 129	+10 to +9

<b>HOLSTEIN STEERS</b>			
Under 700 lbs	No test	77 – 88	
Over 700 lbs	75-96	77 – 89	+2 to -7

<b>COWS</b>			
Utility/Commercial	70-85	73-82	+ 3 to - 3
Canner & Cutter	56-82	60-76	+ 4 to -6

Stock Cows	800-1250	1,100-1,275	+ 300 to +75
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<b>BULLS</b>			
Slaughter	80-111	60-116	-20 to +5

COMPILED BY THE IDAHO FARM BUREAU COMMODITY DIVISION



# IDAHO HAY REPORT

USDA Market News, Moses Lake, WA

August 25, 2017

Compared to last week, domestic and export Alfalfa and Timothy steady. Trade active this week with good demand especially for feeder hay. Prices are dollars per ton and FOB the farm or ranch unless otherwise stated.

AUGUST 25 <sup>TH</sup>		
Type	Tons	Price
<b>Alfalfa</b>		
Premium	6200	130.56
	2500	128.00 Export
Good	4700	110.00
Fair	200	120.00 Export
<b>Timothy Grass</b>		
Fair	250	215

Alfalfa hay test guidelines, (for domestic livestock use and not more than 10% grass), used with visual appearance and intent of sale. Quantitative factors are approximate and many factors can affect feeding value.

	ADF	NDF	RFV	TDN-100%	TDN-90%	CP-100%
Supreme	<27	<34	>185	>62	>55.9	>22
Premium	27-29	34-36	170-185	60.5-62	54.5-55.9	20-22
Good	29-32	36-40	150-170	58-60	52.5-54.5	18-20
Fair	32-35	40-44	130-150	56-58	50.5-52.5	16-18
Utility	>35	>44	<130	<56	<50.5	<16

# POTATOES & ONIONS

August 22, 2017

## Potatoes

Shipments 719-569-503 (includes exports of 20-13-7) ---Movement expected to decrease seasonally. Trading active. Prices too few open market sales to establish a market. Most sheds still packing Burbank russets were closed on Monday, August 21 due to the solar eclipse.

## Onions - Dry

IDAHO AND MALHEUR COUNTY OREGON---Shipments 0-7\*-10---Movement expected to increase as more shippers get started new onions. A price report is expected to start current week (August 20).

# 5 YEAR GRAIN COMPARISON

Grain Prices.....8/21/2013.....8/25/2014.....8/25/2015.....8/22/2016.....8/25/2017

Portland:					
Soft White Wheat.....	7.34	6.93	5.61	4.85-4.95	4.84-5.25
Hard Red Winter.....	8.05-8.11	7.08-7.23	5.31-5.66	4.77-4.97	4.39-4.74
14% DNS.....	8.36	7.96	6.06	6.00-6.15	7.30-7.79
Corn.....	2.65-2.67.25	No Bid	2.50.00	4.37-4.39	4.19-4.21

Ogden:					
Soft White Wheat.....	6.32	6.07	5.40	4.07	3.60
Hard Red Winter.....	6.87	6.12	4.46	3.93	3.57
Dark Northern Spring.....	7.58	6.82	5.46	5.15	6.44
Barley.....	8.30	6.35	6.35	5.55	6.20

Pocatello/Blackfoot:					
Soft White Wheat.....	5.90	No Bid	5.05	3.60	3.40
Hard Red Winter.....	6.44	No Bid	4.10	3.90	3.75
14% DNS.....	6.89	No Bid	4.80	5.00	6.05
Barley.....	No Bid	No Bid	4.50	4.10	4.15

Burley:					
Soft White Wheat.....	6.16	No Bid	4.94	3.75	3.60
Hard Red Winter.....	6.51	No Bid	4.03	3.27	3.50
Hard Red Spring.....	7.00	No Bid	4.78	4.77	6.10
Barley.....	8.75	No Bid	6.00	5.50	5.50

Nampa/Meridian:					
White Wheat (cwt).....	10.58	10.25	8.91	No Bid	No Bid
(bushel).....	6.35	6.15	5.35	No Bid	No Bid

Lewiston:					
Soft White Wheat.....	7.12	6.70	5.33	4.68	4.85
Barley.....	181.50	156.50	141.50	106.50	111.50

Bean Prices:					
Pintos.....	40.00-42.00	34.00-35.00	N/A	29.00-30.00	27.00-28.00
Garbanzo.....	N/A	N/A	N/A	34.00-36.00	32.00-38.00

# MILK PRODUCTION

August 18, 2017

July Milk Production up 1.9 Percent Milk production in the 23 major States during July totaled 17.2 billion pounds, up 1.9 percent from July 2016. June revised production, at 16.9 billion pounds, was up 1.7 percent from June 2016. The June revision represented an increase of 5 million pounds or less than 0.1 percent from last month's preliminary production estimate. Production per cow in the 23 major States averaged 1,969 pounds for July, 21 pounds above July 2016. This is the highest production per cow for the month of July since the 23 State series began in 2003. The number of milk cows on farms in the 23 major States was 8.73 million head, 72,000 head more than July 2016, but 1,000 head less than June 2017.

July Milk Production in the United States up 1.8 Percent Milk production in the United States during July totaled 18.2 billion pounds, up 1.8 percent from July 2016. Production per cow in the United States averaged 1,940 pounds for July, 20 pounds above July 2016. The number of milk cows on farms in the United States was 9.40 million head, 74,000 head more than July 2016, but 1,000 head less than June 2017.

## 5 YEAR LIVESTOCK COMPARISON

	8/20/2013	8/22/2014	8/25/2015	8/19/2016	8/25/2017
<b>Feeder Steers</b>					
Under 500 lbs.....	140-195	200-360	230-330	130-180	135-188
500-700 lbs.....	129-190	172-310	197-255	125-170	125-180
700-900 lbs.....	120-149	175-239	166-221	115-146	97-150
Over 900 lbs.....	97-138	148-207	160-197	109-134	88-136
<b>Feeder Heifers</b>					
Under 500 lbs.....	125-179	208-309	200-322	127-164	130-175
500-700 lbs.....	123-158	172-280	170-230	120-146	114-151
700-900 lbs.....	115-140	172-245	163-205	110-138	110-138
Over 900 lbs.....	83-135	166-204	160-199	114-126	100-129
<b>Holstein Steers</b>					
Under 700 lbs.....	67-115	150-216	140-200	No test	77-88
Over 700 lbs.....	81-105	149-190	130-172	No test	77-90
<b>Cows</b>					
Utility/Commercial.....	62-84	91-128	85-113	64-83	73-82
Canner & Cutter.....	60-82	83-112	75-101	59-74	60-76
Stock Cows.....	N/A	1440-1900	1175-2600	No test	1,100-1,275
<b>Bulls – Slaughter</b>					
	70-109	110-149	98-143	72-100	86-106

## CATTLE ON FEED

Cattle on Feed  
August 25, 2017

### United States Cattle on Feed Up 4 Percent

Cattle and calves on feed for the slaughter feedlots with capacity of 1,000 or more head totaled 10.6 million head on August 1, 2017. The inventory was 4 percent above August 1, 2016.

Placements in feedlots during July totaled 1.62 million head, 3 percent above 2016. Net placements were 1.57 million head. During July, placements of cattle and calves weighing less than 600 pounds were 360,000 head, 600-699 pounds were 235,000 head, 700-799 pounds were 385,000 head, 800-899 pounds were 370,000 head, 900-999 pounds were 190,000 head, and 1,000 pounds and greater were 75,000 head.

Marketings of fed cattle during July totaled 1.78 million head, 4 percent above 2016.

Other disappearance totaled 48,000 head during July, 4 percent below 2016.

Number of Cattle on Feed, Placements, Marketings, and Other Disappearance on 1,000+ Capacity Feedlots - United States: August 1, 2016 and 2017

## CATTLE MARKET REPORT

### 2018 Beef Production Forecast at 2.3-Percent Growth

USDA forecasts 2.3-percent growth in U.S. beef production in 2018, based on larger 2016—and expected 2017—calf crops that are projected to support increases in cattle placements in late 2017 and early 2018. Marketings of fed cattle are expected to be higher during 2018, supporting higher slaughter during the year, while carcass weights are also expected to increase.

### Dressed Weights Limit Beef Production on Higher Slaughter

Commercial beef production for April 2017 was fractionally below a year ago. However, with 1 less slaughter day in the month, meatpackers slaughtered 2 percent, or 54,000 head, more cattle than last year. According to the USDA/NASS *Livestock Slaughter* report released in May 2017, dressed weights for steers and heifers slaughtered under Federal inspection declined 25 and 22 pounds, respectively, year over year. The

decrease in the average carcass weight more than offset the increase in the number of cattle slaughtered and kept production from increasing. The USDA report on beef production under Federal inspection for the week ending May 27 indicates that average dressed weights for steers and heifers continue to decline, falling another 9 and 13 pounds, respectively, from the week ending April 29. Weights are expected to move higher seasonally, but gains will likely be limited while there are incentives to market cattle as rapidly as possible.

The demand by meatpackers likely contributed to that price surge. Relative price strength is likely to persist as demand for beef remains strong. However, as summer demand winds down, packer margins will likely decline and cattle prices will be pressured. Third-quarter fed prices are expected to decline seasonally, averaging \$118-\$124 per cwt, up from \$113.26 in third-quarter 2016.

Third-quarter production is forecast at 6.8 billion pounds, and USDA revised its 2017 commercial beef production down slightly to 26.2 billion pounds. For 2018, beef production was adjusted upward to 27.1 billion pounds on the expectation that more steers and heifers would be available for slaughter next year due to the higher forecast 2017 calf crop.



# CLASSIFIEDS

## Animals

Yearling Beefmaster bulls for sale. Quality and performance. \$1800. Nampa. Call Jody at 208-573-3209.

Barbados lambs for sale. \$50.00. Preston, Idaho 208-852-3354 or 435-890-8806.

## Farm Equipment

Hay Pilar for small bales with electric motor. Asking price \$300. Richfield, Id. 208-487-2950.

New Squeeze chute, green, hand pull, \$1,300. Midvale, Id 208-355-3780.

Balewagons: New Holland self-propelled or pull-type models. Also interested in buying balewagons. Will consider any model. Call Jim Wilhite at 208-880-2889 anytime

## Hay

Hay Alfalfa/Grass Mix 1st cutting \$5.00 per bale. Wilder, Idaho 208-482-6865.

## Miscellaneous

Dividing perennials. \$1 per shovel. Iris, hollyhock seeds, bachelor buttons, creeping jenny, vinca, penstemon, and more. Call 208-466-5917.

Sunset Memorial Cemetery Twin Falls. 2 plots with 1 open/close pd for, and a 24x32 grave marker paid for. \$3,000 for all. Call 208-733-0195 or 208-733-5938.

Woodmaster outdoor wood stove. Comes with pump and draft fan. Stove heats your home and hot water. Works in conjunction with existing furnace or as standalone heat. Lower your heating costs and increase your comfort. Horseshoe Bend, Id. John 208-781-0691.

## Real Estate/Acreage

1/2 acre building lot for sale. City water, Utilities to property line, unobstructed view of Dragoon Mountains, sunsets. Pearce, AZ Text or call 208-993-1313.

Lot for Sale - 1/2 Acre Country Lot. Building Lot or for New Manufactured Home. City water, Gas, Utilities available. Must obtain permits for water hook-up & septic system. Shelley area. Call 528-5337

General contractor's personnel log home on twenty forested acres. 2,400 square feet, three bedrooms, two baths. 30'x55' heated shop, RV storage building. Professionally landscaped. 40 minutes to Coeur d'Alene or Sandpoint. One hour to Spokane airport. \$599,000. Call Ron, 208-263-9141.

Two properties: 20.93 Acres on Boehner Rd, Wilder, Id, planted in alfalfa, \$165,000; 3.74 acres on Boehner Rd in Wilder, Id. Beautiful hilltop home site, manufactured home allowed. Off quite road with no nearby neighbors. \$119,900. 208-482-6865.

48-77 acres - 1800 sq. ft. home. Built 2014. 6 other outbuildings, fenced with ponds, hunting and fishing. \$395,000. Bovill, Id. 208-826-3610.

Horse property in Northern Idaho 19+ acres hay or pasture. 4B 3b 3600 sq. ft. home 40x80 barn 4 indoor stalls + covered feed area. 20x30 heated shop, 42x60 equipment shed. \$629,500. Terry 208-699-0816.

## Wanted

Older Farm Bureau member looking for a Farm Bureau member that will allow me to hunt deer on their land. The property owner can specify time, place, weapon, etc. call 208-584-3662.

## Wanted

Paying cash for old cork top embossed bottles and some telephone insulators. Call Randy. Payette, Id. 208-740-0178.

Paying cash for German & Japanese war relics/souvenirs! Pistols, rifles, swords, daggers, flags, scopes, optical equipment, uniforms, helmets, machine guns (ATF rules apply) medals, flags, etc. 549-3841 (evenings) or 208-405-9338.

Old License Plates Wanted: Also key chain license plates, old signs, light fixtures. Will pay cash. Please email, call or write. Gary Peterson, 130 E Pecan, Genesee, Id 83832. gearlep@gmail.com. 208-285-1258

Our Idaho family loves old wood barns and would like to restore/rebuild your barn on our Idaho farm. Would you like to see your barn restored/rebuilt rather than rot and fall down? Call Ken & Corrie 208-425-3225.

Looking for vertical lift single stage impeller pump 16" to 24" diameter 10' to 15' long. Bonners Ferry, ID 208-267-7414

**DEADLINE DATES:  
ADS MUST BE RECEIVED BY  
August 20  
FOR NEXT ISSUE.**

## FREE CLASSIFIEDS

Non commercial classified ads are free to Idaho Farm Bureau members. Must include membership number for free ad. Forty (40) words maximum. Non-member cost- 50 cents per word. You may advertise your own crops, livestock, used machinery, household items, vehicles, etc. Ads will not be accepted by phone. Ads run one time only and must be re-submitted in each subsequent issue. We reserve the right to refuse to run any ad. Please type or print clearly. Proof-read your ad.

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