



## How farmers hold onto hope in the tough times



**S**pring is one of my favorite seasons on the farm. It's a time of new life, fresh starts and, most of all, hope.

Farmers and ranchers are some of the most hopeful people around. We can't help it: it's part of our DNA. We have to believe that the next season will be better than the last because we love the work we have been called to do.

I love the Bible verse that says, "Faith is the substance of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." I can't think of a better description of what it takes to endure as a farmer or rancher.

I believe that faith in God can carry us through all the valleys and mountaintops of life. That's an especially encouraging word for farmers and ranchers as our work comes with more unknowns than most. Farm life brings both unplanned hard times and surprising, rich blessings.

It takes faith to plant a crop without knowing what the weather or the markets will hold across the year and at harvest time. Faith to find the workers you'll need in time for tending and harvesting that crop. And faith to pick up the pieces

See **DUVALL**, page 8

## The President's Desk

By Bryan Searle

President Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

## Lots of great things happening in Idaho agriculture



**A** three-hour event held in front of the steps of Idaho's Capitol building to celebrate National Ag Day sent a simple yet very profound message.

The March 14 event included 165 chairs and place settings positioned alongside two very long tables. As anyone who attended the celebration quickly found out, the 165 place settings signified the number of people the average American farmer feeds each year.

That number is up significantly from the 15 people fed by the average American farmer in 1940.

The National Ag Day event, which was hosted by the Idaho State Department of Agriculture, was a stark reminder of just how important farmers and ranchers are to this nation and state.

Anyone who spent even a few moments looking at the display also learned that the state's residents would have to eat a massive amount of food if every farm commodity produced in Idaho stayed here.

Every Idahoan would have to eat 43 potatoes, 180 slices of bread, three cups of beans, two

See **SEARLE**, page 9

## Inside Farm Bureau

By Rick Keller

CEO Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

## USMCA a win for farmers, workers and businesses



**F**arm Bureau supports the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) and urges Congress to move quickly to ratify the agreement when it receives implementing legislation from the Trump administration.

On Nov. 30, 2018, the United States, Mexico and Canada reached an agreement in the renegotiation of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA). USMCA is a mutually beneficial win for North American workers, farmers, and businesses. When finalized and implemented, the agreement will create more balanced, reciprocal

trade that supports American jobs and grows the North American economy.

Agriculture is a major beneficiary of the agreement. USMCA will expand market access for American food and agricultural products.

Achievements include: The elimination of Canada's milk classes 6 and 7, which restricted U.S. dairy access to Canada; setting standards for ag biotechnology; significant commitments to reduce trade distorting policies, improve transparency and ensure non-discriminatory

See **KELLER**, page 8



# Idaho Farm Bureau.

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**COVER ILLUSTRATION:** Five people were inducted into the Eastern Idaho Agriculture Hall of Fame March 22. See page 4 for story.

# Hall of Fame

## Five inducted into E. Idaho Agriculture Hall of Fame

By Sean Ellis

*Idaho Farm Bureau Federation*

FORT HALL — Five leaders in the region’s farming industry were inducted into the Eastern Idaho Agriculture Hall of Fame March 22.

The Hall of Fame’s 35-member board inducted Carol Guthrie of Inkom, LaVar Newman of Montevieu, Dr. Kleal Hill of Arco, Carl Lufkin of Salmon and Jean Schwieder of Iona.

During the EIHF’s annual recognition dinner, the Ed Duren Memorial Young Producer Award was presented to MaCoy Ward of Dubois.

EIHF officials said the Hall of Fame honors people who have made significant contributions to the region’s agricultural industry.

“I really appreciate the stories of the success and the hard work and dedication of the folks who are being honored here tonight,” Idaho State Director of Agriculture Celia Gould said during the Hall of Fame’s 47th annual recognition dinner.

All five Hall of Fame inductees, as well as Ward, are Idaho Farm Bureau members.

### Carol Guthrie

Guthrie, who owns a ranch along the Portneuf River south of Inkom, said that when she and her husband first purchased the land where the ranch is located, the river, which meanders through the property, was taking a substantial amount of land per year.

The Guthries, over several years, installed various erosion control methods to turn the river bed into a greatly improved riparian zone.

“Today, the ranch is a model for soil conservation rehabilitation and the Guthries have hosted numerous tours and received state-wide recognition for their efforts,” Guthrie’s induction biography states.

“We’ve always felt that you need to leave things better than how you found them,” Guthrie said during the Hall of Fame induction event.

She was also recognized for her role as an advocate for agricultural literacy. Guthrie has been a member of the Idaho Ag in the Classroom Association for more than 18 years and has organized



Photo by Joel Benson

**Carol Guthrie poses for a photo at the Eastern Idaho Agriculture Hall of Fame induction ceremony on March 22.**

tours, workshops and other events across the state for teachers who participate in Idaho Ag in the Classroom activities.

Guthrie has also held major leadership roles in county, state and national Farm Bureau efforts.

A lot of people don’t understand how their food is produced, said EIHF board member Rick Phillips, who nominated Guthrie.

“Carol has changed that in East Idaho,” he said. Thanks to her efforts, “Thousands of Idaho students and hundreds of teachers now at least have a beginning understanding of this miracle that we know as Idaho agriculture.”

Guthrie said that today’s students are soon going to be the state’s leaders and “they need to know about agriculture and how important it is in our lives.”



Photo by Joel Benson

**LaVar Newman, center, poses for a photo at the Eastern Idaho Agriculture Hall of Fame induction ceremony on March 22.**

### **LaVar Newman**

Through the years, Newman has raised seed potatoes, commercial potatoes, seed peas, pigs, sheep, dairy cattle, wheat, malt barley and alfalfa.

He started his own agricultural business on rented ground when he was a sophomore in high school and he built a large family operation from the ground up.

According to his bio, “Over a lifetime of hard work, his farm turned into an 8,000-acre-plus operation ... Of those acres, some 1,500 acres was ground Newman had to clear of sagebrush with a beater, level out for farming, drill wells and install power.”

Newman said the secret to his success is no secret at all; it’s called “hard work.”

“My generation knew what a shovel was for, and a pitchfork and an axe,” he said. “My folks lived through the Depression and it was hard to make a living, so we learned to work and it was hard work.”

His advice to other farmers, particularly those who are struggling or just getting started: “You have good years and bad years, you just have to hang in there.”

According to his bio, Newman was one of the first people in the Montevue area to bale with an accumulator and stack with a tractor and he was also one of the first to install irrigation circles in the area and run wheel lines. He was also one of the first hay growers to buy his own semis and trailers to deliver his hay to customers.

“LaVar was always willing to try new equipment and be ahead of his time,” said EIHf board member Richard Larsen, who nominated him.



Photo by Joel Benson

**Dr. Kleal Hill, right, poses for a photo at the Eastern Idaho Agriculture Hall of Fame induction ceremony on March 22.**

### **Dr. Kleal Hill**

Hill has operated a one-veterinarian practice for 40 years in Arco.

He said he was surprised when he got the call informing him of his induction into the Hall of Fame. “I wondered what I did to get picked,” he said. “It’s a pretty big honor for an old worn-out vet.”

Hill’s clients include large and small commercial cattle operators, sheep and equine operations, some hogs and also some smaller animals such as dogs and cats.

According to his induction bio, “Dr. Hill’s work has improved the life of many animals and helped his clients to stay in business.”

“He has positively impacted the quality of livestock, and their care, in a wide area,” said EIHf board member Dale Clark, who nominated Hill. “Dr. Hill has been on call 24/7 for 40 years ... trying to do the right thing in less than ideal conditions. He represents the quality that the Eastern Idaho Agriculture Hall of Fame stands for.”

Hill, who grew up on his family’s farm near Mackay and always had a keen interest in animals, said his job has required a lot of long hours and hard work over the decades but added, “I’ve had a lot of fun doing this.”

He said when he was first out of vet school, he thought he could fix the world.

“That don’t work,” he said. “It’s kind of hard to tell a 70-year-old rancher he’s doing everything wrong. It doesn’t take long to figure out that, do the work they ask you for and if they want your advice, they’ll ask. Just try to do as good a job for them as you can do.”



Photo by Joel Benson

**Carl Lufkin is inducted into the Eastern Idaho Agriculture Hall of Fame on March 22.**

### **Carl Lufkin**

Lufkin owns a cow-calf operation in Salmon that runs about 300 registered Angus cattle and sells about 85 bulls a year.

According to his bio, he has “built a good seed stock herd and produced bulls which are reported to be practical and efficient for his customers in the range cattle business.”

He has been a leader in the beef cattle industry for many years, according to his bio, which noted that he “has donated many hours to activities that benefited producers and permittees on federal range.”

Lufkin has served on the Idaho Cattle Association’s board of directors since 2011 and served as ICA president for two years. He has also served on the board of directors for the Lemhi County Cattle and Horse Growers Association.

EIHF board member Jay Wiley, who nominated Lufkin, said “his continuing efforts (have) benefited not only ranchers in Lemhi County but across all of Idaho as well.”

Lufkin, who was raised on his family’s cow-calf operation in the Rigby area, said some boys dream of becoming sports stars or race car drivers but his dream was to be in the cattle business.

“How rich is a man who does every day the thing he dreams of as a boy,” he said.

Lufkin credited his success to having a lot of good mentors.

“I had a lot of good teachers and I figured out what those guys were doing that was working,” he said. “A lot of the guys who have been inducted into the Hall of Fame are mentors of mine.”



Photo by Joel Benson

**Jean Schwieder speaks at the Eastern Idaho Agriculture Hall of Fame induction ceremony on March 22.**

### **Jean Schwieder**

Schwieder is a partner in a large farm and ranch operation, and she helps her husband manage 250 head of cattle and 2,200 acres of farm ground. They primarily grow hay, alfalfa, wheat and barley.

She is also a writer who has written and developed much of the news print media and graphics distributed by the Idaho grain industry over the past 10 years.

She authors a column, “Straddlin’ the Fence,” and writes bi-weekly articles about farm life and country living. Her works have been published in 10 books and her stories appear often in the Intermountain Farm and Ranch newspaper. The Idaho Grain Producers Association has awarded her its Print Media Award.

“I’ve always enjoyed writing and there are a lot of stories out there about agriculture and about what we face in the in-



Photo by Joel Benson

The Eastern Idaho Agriculture Hall of Fame induction ceremony was held on March 22.

dusty and about the fun and joy of it,” she said.

She said she tries to incorporate some humor into her stories “and I like to tell the fun stories that we have. It’s a wonderful life. You can’t beat the life of a farmer or rancher.”

According to her bio, Schwieder has also “been a driving force in hosting Idaho grain tours for foreign buyers from the Philippines, Japan, China, Egypt, Morocco and several Washington, D.C., ambassadors.”

“(Schwieder) has been and continues to be a role model for many young women,” said EIAHF board member Dr. John Walker, who nominated her.

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**Hall of Fame**

For more information online about the Eastern Idaho Agriculture Hall of Fame, visit [eiahalloffame.com](http://eiahalloffame.com).

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**Ed Duren Memorial Award – MaCoy Ward**

Ward is the second person to receive the Ed Duren Memorial Young Producer Award, which recognizes an agricultural producer under the age of 40 for production innovations, leadership and who has had a positive impact on the Eastern Idaho ag industry.

Duren, who passed away last year, was a University of Idaho Extension livestock specialist based in Soda Springs.

According to the EIAHF, “Ed spent a 39-year career (and many more years as a professor emeritus) providing education, outreach and leadership to producers and organizations across Idaho and beyond. His impact on agriculture in Idaho is beyond measure.”

Ward, 33, and his wife raise Angus cattle in the Terreton area. They also raise wheat and alfalfa.

Ward also serves as a Clark County Commissioner, and as a



Photo by Joel Benson

The program for the Eastern Idaho Agriculture Hall of Fame induction ceremony sits on a table on March 22.

member of the county’s search and rescue team as well as the Clark County Stockgrowers Association. He is also involved in the Camas Creek Rangeland Fire Protection Association.

“In small towns, you wear multiple hats,” he said.

“As a producer and elected county leader, he continues to work to improve lives and circumstances of agricultural producers and others,” his bio states.

“It’s great to get an award for doing something you love,” Ward said.

His advice to beginning farmers or ranchers: “Stay in it and put in the hard work. Don’t give up.” ■

# Duvall

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*Continued from page 2*

and start again in the face of trial and hardship.

President Ronald Reagan often enjoyed retelling a conversation he once had on his way to address the Farm Bureau annual meeting in Las Vegas: “And on my way to the hall, a fellow recognized me and asked what I was doing in Las Vegas. And I told him what I was there for. And he said what are a bunch of farmers doing in a place like Las Vegas? And I couldn’t resist. I said, ‘Buster, they’re in a business that makes a Las Vegas craps table look like a guaranteed annual income.’”

Decades later, that story still gets a chuckle, but farmers and ranchers know the hard truth behind it. Many of us pressed on through the recession in the 1980s. Now, a new generation is seeing the steepest drop in farm income since then. When we add in the impact of an ongoing trade war and the devastation from hurricanes, wildfires and flooding, our faith is truly being tested.

But when I travel the country and meet with many of you, I hear stories of hope. Folks who are not ready to quit even in the face of the toughest times. Folks who are hopeful for the future of agriculture because we know how far we’ve come and what we can accomplish when we work alongside our friends and neighbors. Our faith doesn’t come easy, but it is strong, and it makes our families and communities stronger.

We are stronger when we work together and help our neighbors, like many of you have done for those who lost so much to the devastating storms across the Midwest recently. Congress could certainly follow this example as they work on a disaster relief bill for farmers and ranchers. Times of crisis are times when

we should come together.

Using FEMA data and data from a recent Feeding the Economy study, sponsored by the American Farm Bureau Federation and other groups, AFBF economists estimate the total economic contribution of agriculture in areas hit by natural disasters in 2018 and 2019 is more than \$80 billion and includes 419,000 ag-related jobs. Our lawmakers need to set politics aside for the good of our farmers, our food security and our economy.

I still have hope that our lawmakers can come together for agriculture and for what we can accomplish together as spring blossoms here in Washington.

There are policies that will soon be ripe for harvest, from trade to regulatory reform. With USMCA, we have protected the gains of our trade partnership with Canada and Mexico: Now it’s time to urge Congress to get the deal done.

Meanwhile, we will continue to work toward finding solutions to remaining challenges like seasonality issues with fruit and vegetable imports. And finally, after years of grassroots and legal advocacy, we are one step closer to a Clean Water Rule that provides much-needed clarity for farmers and ranchers.

There’s no doubt that the last few seasons have been tough for many in agriculture. From some of the pictures I’ve seen of the impacts of the Midwest flooding, I certainly could understand if things look hopeless.

But just as spring returns every year and plants push through the soil, farmers and ranchers push through the hard times. Our hope is perennial and as sure as the seasons. We will endure. We will press on in the hope of a better and more bountiful harvest. ■

# Keller

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*Continued from page 2*

treatment for agricultural product standards; fair treatment for quality requirements for wheat and other ag products; enhanced rules for science-based sanitary and phytosanitary measures; new disciplines on geographic indications; market access for certain cheese names; prohibiting barriers for alcohol beverages; and new protections for proprietary food formulas.

Trade is critical to American agriculture. About 25 percent of U.S. farm products by value are exported. U.S. farmers and ranchers export more by value than farmers in any other country. In fact, the U.S. has a trade surplus in agriculture.

Agricultural trade is successful because of trade agreements that have reduced barriers to U.S. exports. For Idaho specifically, 16,700 jobs are supported by agricultural exports and the annual value of Idaho agricultural exports is \$2 billion.

Enacting USMCA is important for economic growth in the North American marketplace. The passage of USMCA is also critical to successfully continue a strong trade agenda that

includes negotiations to further expand market opportunities for America’s farmers and ranchers with Japan, the European Union and the United Kingdom.

Ratifying USMCA requires affirmative votes of Congress, both the House and the Senate. With many in Congress who have never voted on a trade agreement before, passage may be challenging. There is a lot of trade education going on to help lawmakers understand the agreement before they vote, and Farm Bureau is assisting in that education.

While it’s still unclear exactly when Congress will go to a vote, it’s really important it happens by the end of summer, before Congress gets into the next presidential election cycle.

U.S. farmers and ranchers have worked hard to build markets and be reliable suppliers to both countries. Now it’s up to Congress to seal the deal by ratifying USMCA in a timely manner.

America’s farmers and ranchers depend on good relationships with our two closest trading partners, and they are depending on Congress to ratify USMCA. ■



*Continued from page 2*

onions, two pounds of beef and two pounds of cheese If Idahoans had to consume all the farm products grown here. And that list was compiled just for dramatic effect. It would be much, much longer if all of the 185 farm commodities produced in Idaho were included.

Kudos to the state's ag department for putting together this clever display to give legislators and others a glimpse of how critical farmers and ranchers are to the state, and nation.

See page 28 for a story on that event.

That National Ag Day celebration was a hard-to-miss event if you happened to be in the area that day. But all across Idaho, other great things are happening within the state's agricultural industry.

Idaho's hop growers say they anticipate adding an additional 800 acres of that crop this year, a 10 percent increase over last year. That 10 percent jump in hop acres is impressive on its own but it's downright amazing considering that Idaho has added hop acres at that rate, and better, every year since 2012.

During that time, Idaho has jumped Oregon to become the nation's No. 2 hop producing state. At its current pace, hops could very soon be one of Idaho's top seven or eight crops in total farm-gate revenue.

See page 27 for a story on the rapid growth of Idaho hop acres.

Courtesy of a story that appeared recently in the Idaho State Journal, it turns out that East Idaho is North America's major producer of quinoa, an ancient grain that is making a modern comeback.

Add quinoa to the big list of farm commodities that Idaho is one of the national leaders in. We have grown a few acres on our own farm the last few years and found that as with any new crop, there is definitely a knack to finding the right variety that produces in our climate. It's good to find new crop options that can be profitable and meet the growing demand.

According to USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service, Idaho producers led the nation when it came to the percentage of farmers and ranchers in a state who used the Internet to fill out their 2017 Census of Agriculture surveys.

Conventional wisdom probably assumed that Idaho wouldn't rank very high in that category given the comparatively slow broadband speeds in some rural parts of the state. Well, conventional wisdom was wrong on that one.

Another recent development highlights the positive results that occur when Idaho Farm Bureau members stay engaged.

When U.S. Air Force officials from Mountain Home AFB

wanted to get word out to farmers and ranchers about an upcoming training exercise that could cause devices such as tractors that rely on the use of GPS to malfunction, they contacted Idaho Farm Bureau.

IFB put together a news release, which was sent to news organizations.

The good part of this story, besides the Air Force seeking to be good neighbors, is that military officials in Idaho thought of Farm Bureau when they were trying to figure out how to inform farmers and ranchers about the exercise, which took place April 1-5.

That development showcases the impact Farm Bureau members can have when they remain engaged in issues important to agriculture and ensure the collective voice of agriculture is heard.

When the Air Force wanted to reach people involved in farming and ranching, they recognized IFB as The Voice of Idaho Agriculture.

Agriculture is big in Idaho and it's important in Idaho and it's important that each of us continue to support the state's farming industry and continue to be its voice. ■

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Photo by Sean Ellis

Foreign guest workers brought into Idaho under the federal H-2A program prune fruit trees in an orchard near Fruitland March 29. Idaho farming operations that use the H-2A program say a 16 percent increase this year in the amount they must pay guest workers will severely impact their bottom line.

# PAY HIKE

## Sixteen percent H-2A wage increase impacts Idaho farmers

By Sean Ellis

*Idaho Farm Bureau Federation*

POCATELLO — Idaho farmers who use foreign guest workers under the federal H-2A program will have to pay those workers 16 percent more than they did last year.

For many farming operations that use the program, the increase will severely affect their bottom line, especially considering that farm commodity prices aren't increasing and input costs aren't decreasing.

"It will certainly have a significant impact on our operation," said Chad Henggeler, field manager for Henggeler Packing Co., one of the state's largest fruit orchards. "When you take a 16 percent

increase in costs in one year, that's pretty substantial."

Henggeler said labor costs represent about 65 percent of the total costs associated with growing fruit. His company will use 52 H-2A workers this year, which will be about 95 percent of his total workforce.

Given that, "When you add a 16 percent increase in costs in one year, that's a substantial amount of money," he said. "It's a huge (impact) to our bottom line."

The federal H-2A agricultural guest worker program allows agricultural producers who can't find enough domestic workers to bring in foreign guest workers to fill jobs on a temporary or seasonal basis.

See **WAGE**, page 24

# H-2A wage increase may slow growth of guest worker program

By Sean Ellis

*Idaho Farm Bureau Federation*

POCATELLO — The growth in the number of U.S. farming operations that use the federal H-2A guest worker program slowed during the first quarter of 2019, a possible result of the average 6 percent increase in the federally mandated minimum wage ag operations must pay H-2A workers.

According to American Farm Bureau Federation, recently released federal data show that the number of certified H-2A positions nationally was up 10 percent during the first three months of 2019 compared with the same period in 2018.

That was the slowest increase in three years, according to AFBF Economist Veronica Nigh.

Use of the H-2A program has grown rapidly in recent years. A total of 85,248 positions were certified nationally in fiscal 2012 and that number grew to 242,762 in fiscal 2018.

In an AFBF Market Intel report, Nigh said that the slowdown in the growth of the program during the first quarter of 2019 seems “to indicate that the large increases in H-2A wages are starting to take a toll.”

The federal H-2A agricultural guest worker program allows agricultural producers who can't find enough domestic workers to bring in foreign guest workers to fill jobs on a temporary or seasonal basis.

Besides paying for their housing and transportation to and from the United States, farm operations that use H-2A workers must pay them a minimum wage mandated by the federal government. This wage is known as the “adverse effect wage rate” and it differs by state.

The average AEWR nationwide increased 6 percent this year, to \$12.96.

In Idaho, the rate increased 16 percent, to \$13.48. Eight Western states saw



Photo by Sean Ellis

**A foreign guest worker brought into Idaho under the federal H-2A program prunes fruit trees in an orchard near Fruitland March 29.**

increases ranging from 15-23 percent.

Whether the increase will impact the number of Idaho farming operations seeking H-2A workers this year is yet to be determined.

In Fiscal Year 2018 – Oct. 1 to Sept. 30 – the Idaho Department of Labor received 616 applications from agricultural operations seeking H-2A workers. That was a 7 percent increase from the 576 applications in fiscal 2017, which saw a 13 percent increase from the 509 applications received during fiscal 2016.

So far during fiscal 2019, IDL has received 578 applications.

According to Georgia Smith, a spokeswoman for the IDL, the department's busy time for receiving H-2A applications is from mid-December to February.

She said the department anticipates the number of H-2A applications it will receive during all of fiscal 2019 will come close to or possibly exceed 2018's total but not by much.

Of the 578 applications IDL has received so far during fiscal 2019, only a handful have been withdrawn because of the H-2A wage increase, Smith said.

According to IDL data, a total of 5,367 H-2A positions were certified in Idaho in fiscal 2018, up from 4,615 in fiscal 2017.

According to IDL, 147 of the H-2A applications the department has received this year are from the Magic Valley area, 110 are from the Rexburg area and 97 are from the Mini-Cassia area (Minidoka and Cassia county). ■



# Efforts to form beer commission could change direction

By Sean Ellis

*Idaho Farm Bureau Federation*

BOISE — Efforts to form an Idaho beer commission might take a different turn, but with the same goal: to promote craft beer produced in the state.

Several different ideas that have been floated to promote Idaho craft beer all revolve around using \$140,000 from an excise tax on strong beer that currently goes to the Idaho Wine Commission.

The idea has been discussed for a few years now and early in those discussions, the talk centered around forming a beer commission to use that \$140,000 to promote craft beer in Idaho.

Besides forming a beer commission, other ideas to accomplish that include directing the money to an existing commission, such as the hops or barley commission, or having an existing state agency use the money to promote craft beer in Idaho.

In 1988, Idaho Code deemed beer over 5 percent alcohol by volume to be wine and the excise tax on that product was the same as wine: 45 cents a gallon.

Five percent of the money raised from that tax on strong beer – about \$140,000 during the most recent fiscal year – has been going to the wine commission.

The state's fast-growing craft brewing industry would like to redirect that money toward the promotion of craft beer in Idaho, said David Arkoosh, a Boise attorney who represents the Idaho Beer Alliance, which includes craft brewers and retailers.



Photos by Sean Ellis

**Beer is poured at Portneuf Valley Brewing in Pocatello. Efforts are underway to explore using some beer tax revenue to promote craft beer in Idaho.**

“The Idaho Beer Alliance’s members want to find a way to take that beer excise tax money that they’re paying and put it to work marketing craft beer produced here in the state of Idaho,” he said.

Idaho Brewers United, which represents craft brewers in the state, supports forming a beer commission to promote Idaho suds, said executive director Sheila Francis.

“I think having a beer commission that is focused on promoting beer would be a good idea,” she said. “But there are some others out there with different thoughts. We’re open to all the other ideas out there.”

Arkoosh said stakeholders have

stepped back from efforts to form a beer commission because of an executive order signed by Gov. Brad Little in January that seeks to reduce government regulations.

“We’re reticent to expand state government if it’s not necessary, so we’re trying to be as efficient as possible while still providing the same benefit to brewers of beer,” he said.

Arkoosh said stakeholders will continue to meet this year and the hope is that the group can unanimously or near unanimously agree to support draft legislation during the 2020 Idaho legislative session, which will convene next January.

Marissa Morrison, Little’s press secre-

tary, said the governor “supports finding a broadly accepted solution on where to direct the beer tax funds. He looks forward to consensus among industry representatives as they work through options.”

When Idaho began allowing, and taxing, beer above 5 percent alcohol in 1988, there was no craft brewing industry in Idaho. There are now 68 breweries in the state and Idaho also leads the nation in malt barley production and is No. 2 in hops production.

A recent explosion in Idaho hop acres has been largely due to demand from the craft brewing industry.

See **BEER**, page 19



Photo By Juli Corder

Members of the Mountain Home FFA chapter are shown during the 88th Idaho FFA State Conference, which was held April 3-6 in Twin Falls.

# Idaho FFA celebrates 88 years of blue jackets

By Erica Louder  
*For Idaho Farm Bureau Federation*

TWIN FALLS — FFA students and supporters converged on the College of Southern Idaho campus April 3-6 to experience the 88th Idaho FFA State Conference. Blue jackets were seen all over Twin Falls and Idaho FFA members spent the week living out their

motto – “Learning to do, doing to learn, earning to live, and living to serve.”

Members competed in career and leadership development events throughout the week and tested their skills in 15 different areas of emphasis, ranging from livestock evaluation to extemporaneous speaking.

In Idaho, there are 5,100 FFA members from 93 FFA chapters,

taught by 195 agriculture educators.

Many of these members come from communities where their county Farm Bureau plays a role in their success, as Farm Bureau members regularly serve as mentors, judges, and supporters.

Here are the winners in each competition category:

- Agriculture issues – American Falls FFA
- Agriculture sales – Madison FFA
- Conduct of chapter meetings – Fruitland FFA
- Farm business management – Kuna FFA
- Floriculture – Fruitland FFA
- Horse evaluation – Nampa FFA
- Livestock evaluation – Homedale FFA
- Employment skills—Cassidy Plum, Meridian FFA
- Nursery and landscape – Middleton FFA
- Parliamentary procedure – Madison FFA
- Prepared public speaking – Cade Brackett, Marsing FFA
- Reporter’s scrapbook – Declo FFA and Cambridge FFA
- Creed speaking – Brooklyn Lowe, Kuna FFA
- Extemporaneous speaking – Jakeb Gerrard, Declo FFA

Besides the competitions that were held at the state conference, FFA members also participated in career success tours as they visited agriculture-based businesses around the Magic Valley, learning about the business of agriculture and potential careers in the industry.

They also attended workshops presented by current and past FFA members, including one hosted by Idaho Farm Bureau Federation. IFBF’s Young Farmers and Ranchers Committee Coordinator, Brody Miller, and YF&R State Committee Member, Melissa Durant, presented a workshop titled, “Continuing Your Lifelong Ag Journey Beyond High School.”

FFA members also spent a day giving back during the Idaho FFA Association’s 5th Annual Day of Service, donating their time at local organizations in the Twin Falls community.

The theme for this conference was “Find Yourself.” This message of self-development was emphasized within each conference session as motivational speakers and the state officers captivated the audience with authenticity and humor.

For many, the highlight of the conference was when FFA members walked across the stage to receive their state FFA degree, the highest honor the Idaho FFA Association awards its members. The degree recognizes the work of FFA members in their supervised agriculture experience or “SAE.”

The SAE involves real-world agricultural activities completed by students outside of planned classroom time. It provides a method for students to receive practical career skills in a part of agriculture in which they are interested. For many students, this may be a project they take to the county fair or summer employment, and for some, a full-blown business that they can scale beyond their high school experience.

The conference concluded with six FFA members being slated to be the Idaho FFA Association state officers for the coming year. These students were picked from a pool of 20 other candidates and went through four days of rigorous interviews. State FFA officers dedicate a year of service to the FFA as they travel the state and country motivating members and educating others about FFA and agriculture.

The Idaho FFA Association state FFA officers for 2019-2020 are:

- President – Herman Roberts, Preston
- Vice president – Shalani Wilcox, Madison
- Secretary – Cassidy Plum, Meridian
- Treasurer – Katie Hettinga, Kuna
- Reporter – Sydney Plum, Meridian
- Sentinel – Katy Doumit, Troy

### What FFA members say

*“Agriculture is one of the largest and most important industries in the nation. The fact that the FFA offers high school kids the chance to be connected to it is incredible. Kids are taught that ag isn’t just farming. Ag is business, it’s biotechnology, it’s engineering. There is a place for everyone in the industry, and FFA members are able to successfully pursue a career with the information they’ve learned and the skills they’ve gained from their membership.”*

— Herman Roberts, Preston FFA

*“FFA has taught me that being a leader is about serving the people around you; encouraging them and lifting them up. Leadership isn’t a rank or a huge position you are put in, I think it is a choice to see the position you are in as a chance to serve and inspire the people around you. Being a leader doesn’t mean that you never make mistakes. It means that when you make mistakes you acknowledge them, you learn from them, and you grow from them.”*

— Annalise DeVries, Cambridge FFA

*“As a bit of advice to new FFA members – take in every moment. You will meet some of the most amazing people. I have met people from all over the country that share the same passion for FFA and agriculture as I do, and those memories that I’ve made are unforgettable. You will learn more about yourself and how you fit into agriculture through your experiences. You will find yourself.”*

— Kiera Packer, Melba FFA



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Idaho Department of Fish and Game photo  
Images from a thermal-imaging camera show elk in and near a harvested wheat field near Geneva, Idaho, last year. A bill passed by Idaho lawmakers this year caps wildlife depredation claims by farmers and ranchers at 10 percent of the Idaho Department of Fish and Game's annual appropriation for its big game depredation account.

# Bill caps wildlife depredation claims

By Bill Schaefer  
*For Idaho Farm Bureau Federation*

Claims by Idaho farmers and ranchers totaling more than \$1.9 million for losses suffered to wildlife depredation during fiscal year 2019 resulted in legislation being passed this year to protect the fund from depletion due to potential high claims in future years.

A program that reimburses farmers and ranchers for wildlife depredation to their crops and forage has seen an increase in both the number of claims filed and the amount paid from Idaho Department of Fish and Game's Expendable Big Game Depredation Trust Account.

The \$1.9 million in claims for fiscal 2019 included a single claim for \$1 million that exceeded the total amount of the other 43 claims combined. That was the first time in the history of the depredation claim program that has happened and it resulted in legislation being passed this year that seeks to prevent a single claim from exhausting the fund and resulting in severe prorating of the other claims.

In 1990, the Idaho Legislature created the EBGDTA to pay for crop and forage losses caused by elk, deer and antelope. Since 1992, the IDFG has paid out 792 claims for wildlife damages

totaling more than \$6 million.

In fiscal 2016, there were 32 claims and IDFG paid out \$359,100. In fiscal 2017, there were 58 claims and IDFG paid out \$708,287. In fiscal 2018, there were 59 claims filed and IDFG paid a total of \$754,833.

"I think the reality is that there are more elk in the ag interface than there were 10 years ago," Toby Boudreau, IDFG wildlife bureau chief, said of the increasing number of claims and higher total payments.

In 2017, the Idaho Legislature passed a bill that increased the amount of money in IDFG's depredation compensation account. For fiscal 2019, the EBGDTA appropriation is \$1.1 million.

During the current fiscal year, IDFG's big game depredation account was hit by one claim for more than \$1 million, for damages by wildlife to 400 acres of organic potatoes and 800 acres of organic wheat. That claim, combined with increasing claims for corn depredation, saw the total amount of claims filed for 2019 rise to over \$1.9 million.

This forced IDFG to request a supplemental appropriation of \$1.5 million during the recently concluded legislative session to cover all the claims and leave a surplus to cover any additional claims through June 30, the end of the fiscal year.

If approved, IDFG pays 50 percent of a claim up front. At the

end of the year, the department pays the rest of the claims in full if there is enough money to do so. If not, the claims are prorated.

While IDFG this year received approval to spend an additional \$1.5 million to cover all of the current year's claims, if claims like last year's \$1 million claim become more common, it could deplete the deprecation fund and cause all claims to be severely prorated, Sharon Kiefer, IDFG bureau chief for communications and marketing, told lawmakers earlier this year.

In an effort to protect deprecation compensation funds from being depleted by any single claim, Sen. Bert Brackett, a Republican rancher from Rogerson, this year introduced Senate Bill 1151, which placed a cap on the amount paid on any single deprecation claim to not exceed 10 percent of the annual appropriation for the big game deprecation account.

For example, with \$1.1 million appropriated for the account in fiscal 2019, the limit this year would be \$110,000.

According to IDFG officials, the highest claims each year are about \$50,000 to \$60,000, so the bill's 10 percent cap would not affect the vast majority of claims.

Brackett said the \$1 million claim would have cleaned out the deprecation fund account this year, resulting in severe prorating of all of the claims. The purpose of SB1151, he said, was to ensure that doesn't happen.

At a public hearing on the bill, Kiefer thanked Brackett for bringing SB1151 forward.

"This bill does create a solution to the concern (of prorated payments) by providing a legislative safeguard to avoid exceptionally large claims straining the deprecation compensation account and resulting in prorating of claims," she said.

The legislation takes effect July 1. ■



## Beer

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*Continued from page 13*

"Since that time, craft brewing has exploded and it's a much more robust industry now than it was in 1988," Arkoosh said. "We think it's time to start giving Idaho's craft beer industry some representation."

Francis said nobody faults the wine commission for receiving that money because there was no craft brewing industry in Idaho in 1988; plus, the IWC has put the money to good use in helping promote Idaho's wine industry.

There were 10 wineries in Idaho in 1997 and there are 52 now.

"It's not their fault they have the money," Francis said. "But part of the money they receive comes from beer and we would like to use the money to promote Idaho beer."

If the \$140,000 in funds that comes from the strong beer excise tax is used to promote beer, that would result in a substantial hit to the wine commission's annual budget of \$700,000, which includes \$300,000 that comes from specialty crop grants the commission has received.

IWC Executive Director Moya Shatz-Dolsby said she has no problem with the beer industry getting that \$140,000 to promote their product.

"We fully support the beer industry and want to see them have success," she said. "I really think that money needs to go to support them."

But she also said her goal is to keep the wine commission funded at its current level because if it's not, it would result in a significant reduction in the commission's marketing, education and research funds and it could result in a staff reduction.

It could also put in jeopardy the matching funds the commission provides on the \$300,000 worth of specialty crop grants it currently has.


Shatz-Dolsby said that in order to keep the wine commission whole, she might ask legislators to increase the IWC's share of the wine excise tax it receives from the state.

The state's wine excise tax is 45 cents a gallon and the commission currently gets 2 cents from every gallon sold. The commission would have to raise its share of what it gets from that tax about 10 percent to make up the difference from losing \$140,000. ■



# BEAUTIFUL AGRICULTURE

## *Nursery & Greenhouse Production*




The nursery and greenhouse industry is made up of thousands of small family businesses that grow, retail, install and care for plants and landscapes. Grower cash receipts from nursery and greenhouse sales to retail and distribution businesses totaled **\$13.8 BILLION** in 2014.

There are 23,221 nursery and greenhouse operations in the U.S. The **TOP-PRODUCING STATES** by value are: **California, Florida, Oregon, Michigan** and **Texas**.

### **TYPICAL NURSERY CROPS**

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- Fruit and nut plants for outdoor/landscape use
- Ornamental plants and trees with woody stems
- Ornamental vines
- Turfgrass sod and other ground covers

### **TYPICAL GREENHOUSE CROPS**

- 
- Aquatic plants
  - Floral, foliage and vegetable plants including tomatoes
  - Mushrooms, herbs and seeds
  - Transplant seedlings and bulbs

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Source: 2014 Census of Horticulture



## Farm Bureau announces smart home discount

Whether you're at work or on vacation, smart home devices allow you to monitor your home remotely and will send you an alert when conditions change or emergencies happen.

Because of that, and because Farm Bureau Insurance is committed to providing service, solutions, and security to our customers, we're proud to announce our Smart Home premium discount. Beginning late summer 2019, customers who install qualifying smart home devices can take advantage of savings on the devices themselves and receive a Smart Home Discount on their premium of up to 5 percent.

"Smart home sensors may facilitate an insurance revolution," says Adam Waldron, director of information services and the Farm Bureau Smart Home Project lead. "Sensors can monitor indicators of possible problems such as pipe or plumbing fissures, faulty wiring, or home intrusion. Alerts can be sent to homeowners and insurers, as well as trigger automatic shut-off valves and notifications to local service providers who can pre-emptively intervene prior to major accidents."

The first device eligible for the Smart Home Discount is the Samsung SmartThings Water Sensor.

"We selected the Samsung SmartThings platform as the standard hub for the smart home sensors," Waldron says. "Samsung's SmartThings hub is one of the most widely adapted smart home automation hubs. It supports the most popular internet of things (IoT) wireless network protocols and is compatible with most of the leading device brands."

Claims data was used to determine the selection of the Water Sensor as the first eligible smart home device.

"Our claims data clearly indicates that water loss prevention is the area to focus on," Waldron says. "More specifically, we want to focus on clients with water losses within the past five years, as our data shows they are more than twice as likely to experience another loss."

Samsung SmartThings Water Sensors run \$15 to \$20 each. The Samsung SmartThings Smart Hub, which is necessary to operate smart home devices, costs \$50-\$70.

The most expensive part of the Samsung water control system is the \$100 automatic Shutoff Valve. Farm Bureau is working directly with the vendors to provide discounts to our customers. When you consider the average cost per incident of a water loss is over \$7,400, a smart home water monitoring system can seem like a smart move.

Other smart home devices that may be eligible for discounts in the future include smoke detectors, security cameras, and motion detectors.

Waldron says the company is committed to innovating and staying at the forefront of advances in smart home technology because "it enhances service, solutions, and security for Farm Bureau members and clients."

If you have any questions about Farm Bureau's Smart Home program, devices, or discounts, please contact Adam Waldron at (208) 239-4333 or [awaldron@idfbins.com](mailto:awaldron@idfbins.com). ■



The Samsung SmartThings Hub and available SmartThings devices.

# MEMBER DISCOUNTS

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 Travelodge - Knights Inn  
 Wyndam - Wingate Inns  
 Howard Johnson - AmeriHost Inn  
 Villager Ramada

**HOLIDAY INN**  
 Holiday Inn - Candlewood  
 Crown Plaza - Staybridge

**MOTEL 6**

**DENTAL CONTRACTED RATES**  
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**INDUSTRIAL SUPPLIES**  
 Grainger

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 Hertz - Enterprise  
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**FINANCIAL**  
 \$1,000 Vandalism Reward  
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 Farm Bureau Scholarships

**OIL CHANGE**  
 Jiffy Lube

**AGRICULTURE**  
 John Deere  
 CASE-IH  
 FEWA H2A Program

**DISCOUNTED MOVIE TICKETS**  
 Boise, Nampa, Pocatello  
 Idaho Falls, Coeur d'Alene

**SUMMER FUN**  
 Lagoon - Silverwood  
 Roaring Springs  
 Wahooz Family Fun Zone  
 San Diego Zoo - Sea World  
 Knott's Berry Farm

**WINTER SKIING**  
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 Larry Jensen Sod (Eastern Idaho)  
 Keller Williams Realty (Eastern Idaho)  
 Dwight Baker Orthodontics (Eastern Idaho)  
 Summit Eyecare (Eastern Idaho)  
 Walton Feed (Southeast Idaho)  
 Cub River Ranch (Preston)  
 Helping Hands Home Health (Pocatello)  
 BA2 Athlete Training (Pocatello)  
 Geronimos (Pocatello)  
 The Victor Apartments (Victor)  
 Morey's Steakhouse (Burley)  
 Village Coffee & Bistro (Boise)  
 Desert Canyon Golf Course (Mountain Home)  
 Barking Spot Grooming (Salmon)  
 Total Image Salon (Salmon)  
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 Scenic 6 RV Park (Potlatch)  
 Pinnacle Physical Therapy (Post Falls)

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## COLLEGIATE FARM BUREAU OFFICERS

Photo by Bailey Storms



These are the new officers for University of Idaho's Collegiate Farm Bureau organization for 2019/20. U of I's Collegiate Farm Bureau brings together students from a variety of disciplines in the university's College of Agricultural and Life Sciences with the goal of developing them as potential future Farm Bureau leaders. Pictured from left to right, along with their positions and contact information, are: Alex Hall, secretary, (509) 380-1091, hall7104@vandals.uidaho.edu; Garrett Barnes, county Farm Bureau liaison, (208) 615-1067, barn5530@vandals.uidaho.edu; Winston Peterson, vice president, (208) 816-3924, pete9762@vandals.uidaho.edu; Rebecca Wickard, treasurer, (509) 432-9909, wick5945@vandals.uidaho.edu; Dana Reynolds, president, 509-899-5822, reyn2192@vandals.uidaho.edu.

## Wage

*Continued from page 10*

Besides paying for their housing and transportation to and from the United States, farm operations that use H-2A workers must pay them a minimum wage mandated by the federal government.

That wage differs by state and is determined by the U.S. Department of Labor based on USDA farm labor wage surveys of non-supervisory farm and ranch workers in a particular area. That wage, known as the H-2A "adverse effect wage rate," increased by an average of 6 percent across the nation this year.

But in Idaho, the AEW rate increased 16 percent, from \$11.63 in 2018 to \$13.48 in 2019.

"Our costs are going up 16 percent. That's a lot," said Brock Obendorf, a hop farmer in southwestern Idaho.

Obendorf, who will use about 250 H-2A workers this year, estimates the increased AEW rate will increase his costs by \$500-700 per acre this year.

"It's a big problem," he said.

The national AEW rate average this year is \$12.96, a 6 percent increase over last year's \$12.20 rate. Putting the average U.S. increase in the AEW rate in perspective, the average hourly increase in earning in the nation was 2.9 percent in 2018.

According to American Farm Bureau Federation, the biggest increases in the AEW rate were in the West. The AEW rate increased by 23 percent in Nevada, Utah and Colorado, by 16 percent in Idaho, Wyoming and Montana and by 15 percent in New Mexico and Arizona.

It rose by 6 percent in California, Oregon and Washington.

Only three states experienced declines – Iowa (minus 0.6 percent),

Florida (minus 0.4 percent) and Missouri (minus 0.6 percent) – and the rest of the states experienced increases between 2 and 9 percent.

American Farm Bureau Federation Economist Veronica Nigh points out the AEW rate increases come at a time when total U.S. net farm income is down 44 percent from where it was in 2013.

Henggeler said he can't find domestic workers and had no choice but to turn to the H-2A program four years ago.

To deal with this year's increase, the Henggeler operation will probably end up taking out some of its orchards so the company can reduce its labor force and overall costs. But Henggeler is concerned about the possibility of future large increases in the AEW rate in Idaho.

"I worry that if we continue to have these types of increases, we're basically going to be priced out," he said.

Jennifer Uranga, who owns Mountain West Ag Consulting, which specializes in H-2A issues, said her organization fielded a lot of calls about the AEW rate increase when it was made official in early January.

She said the increase in Idaho is causing a lot of people who use the H-2A program to take a close look at how many workers they need and whether they can delay some work.

This year's 16 percent increase in Idaho's AEW rate was the biggest increase the state has experienced since it rose 7 percent in 2014. It was flat in 2018, decreased 1 percent in 2017 and increased 5 percent in 2016 and 4 percent in 2015.

From 2014 to 2019, Idaho's AEW rate has increased 26 percent, from \$10.69 to \$13.48. The national average has increased 17 percent during that same period. ■



# Word Search Puzzle: U.S. Agricultural Exports

P	R	A	K	T	N	W	R	L	P	Y	H	S	C	L	R
M	R	N	R	H	I	D	E	S	R	O	D	W	V	K	N
B	R	O	I	L	E	R	M	E	A	T	R	I	C	E	Y
E	W	R	C	O	T	T	O	N	T	Y	P	K	T	S	V
E	S	F	E	E	D	G	R	A	I	N	S	I	R	D	E
F	O	W	G	K	S	L	M	V	L	P	U	P	E	T	G
T	Y	S	H	N	C	S	N	C	O	R	N	T	E	L	E
L	B	M	W	E	V	N	E	U	F	T	K	P	N	D	T
D	E	T	R	T	A	P	L	D	I	W	D	F	U	G	A
G	A	O	H	K	C	T	E	U	V	L	B	S	T	W	B
W	N	B	N	C	R	S	R	M	B	E	N	P	S	T	L
T	S	A	H	Y	S	F	N	P	R	I	G	W	K	L	E
L	R	C	T	E	H	D	K	P	K	M	N	G	J	M	O
M	V	C	C	S	D	E	E	S	L	I	O	T	I	K	I
N	C	O	E	G	J	W	D	A	I	R	Y	P	N	E	L
D	R	R	B	C	L	P	E	T	S	D	L	W	T	M	S
P	F	R	E	S	H	V	E	G	E	T	A	B	L	E	S

BEEF

VEAL

PORK

BROILER MEAT

HIDES

SKINS

DAIRY

POULTRY

FRESH VEGETABLES

PROCESSED VEGGIES

FRESH FRUIT

PROCESSED FRUIT

TREE NUTS

RICE

WHEAT

CORN

FEED GRAINS

SOYBEANS

VEGETABLE OILS

OILSEEDS

COTTON

TOBACCO

**Answer on page 37**

# Total Idaho ag export value increased 2 percent in 2018

By Sean Ellis

Idaho Farm Bureau Federation

POCATELLO — The total value of Idaho agricultural exports to other nations rose 2 percent last year, propelled by a 17 percent increase in dairy product exports.

Milk is Idaho's top farm commodity in terms of total cash receipts and dairy accounted for 25 percent of the state's total export value last year.

Last year marked the second straight year that Idaho's total farm export value has increased. Idaho set ag export value records from 2011-2014 but experienced declines in 2015 and 2016.

The total value of Idaho ag exports was \$829 million during 2017, an 11 percent increase over the 2016 total of \$750 million.

During 2018, Idaho ag export value totaled \$850 million, a 2 percent increase over 2017, according to data provided by the Idaho State Department of Agriculture.

Last year's increase happened despite challenges posed by retaliatory tariffs posed on some U.S. farm products by some of the United States' main trading partners.

Despite those tariffs, there are still a significant amount of market opportunities around the world for Idaho farm products, said Laura Johnson, who manages ISDA's



Photo by Sean Ellis

**A field near Wilder is prepared to be planted with mint last month. Total Idaho agricultural export value increased 2 percent last year compared with 2017.**

market development division.

However, she added, in addition to the retaliatory tariffs, U.S. agriculture faces several challenges on the global trade front.

"Our export value in 2018 could have been much higher if it weren't for those trade headwinds," Johnson said. "Those numbers should have been higher. Hopeful-

ly, those issues get resolved soon."

U.S. and Idaho dairy operators have faced challenges on the global front due to the retaliatory tariffs, said Idaho Dairymen's Association Executive Director Rick Naerebout.

"It's good to have that 17 percent increase in Idaho dairy product exports (in 2018)," he

See **EXPORT**, page 29

## Top Farm Bureau Agents

Agent of the Month



**Perry Shank**  
Jerome County

Rookie of the Month



**Jacob Andrus**  
Bonneville County

Region of the Month



**Magic Valley Region**  
**Scott Badger**  
Regional Executive



Photo by Sean Ellis

Workers prepare a hop yard for the 2019 season near Homedale in late March. Idaho hop growers plan to increase acreage by about 10 percent this year.

# Idaho hop acreage expected to rise 10 percent

By Sean Ellis

*Idaho Farm Bureau Federation*

**WILDER** — The rapid increase in Idaho hop production will continue this year, as Idaho’s hop growers plan to increase acreage by about 10 percent in 2019.

Idaho hop farmers plan to add about 800 new acres this year, said Idaho Hop Commission Chairman Brock Obendorf. If realized, that would push total hop acres in Idaho to 8,940 this year, up from 8,140 last year.

The significant increase in Idaho hop production that has occurred since 2011 has been driven by the craft brewing industry and Obendorf said this year’s increase in acres in the Gem State is re-

lated to “some switching to varieties that are in high demand” by craft brewers.

Idaho hop acreage has risen sharply since 2011, when 2,265 acres of the crop were harvested in the Gem State. That number rose to 2,596 in 2012 and then 3,356 in 2013, 3,743 in 2014, 4,863 in 2015, 5,648 in 2016, 7,125 in 2017 and 8,140 in 2018.

Idaho passed Oregon in production but not acreage in 2017 to become the No. 2 hop producing state in the nation, behind Washington, and Idaho last year passed Oregon in total acreage as well.

Idaho hop farmers produced 16.2 million pounds of hops last year, which was 15.5 percent of the nation’s total supply. Oregon produced 12.9 million pounds (12 percent) and Washington produced

77.7 million pounds (73 percent), according to Hop Growers of America.

The rest of the U.S. combined produces a minimal amount of hops.

The rise in Idaho hop production has coincided with a significant increase in U.S. hop production.

Total U.S. hop production reached a record 108 million pounds last year. Since 2012, U.S. hop acreage has increased by 95 percent, from 29,683 acres to 57,772 acres, according to HGA.

That increase has been a result of the nation’s fast-growing craft brewing industry, which has a hunger for aroma hops.

According to HGA, from 2012-2017, the variety balance between aroma and

See **HOPS**, page 36

# National Ag Day event highlights Idaho farming

By Sean Ellis

*Idaho Farm Bureau Federation*

BOISE — Two very long tables with 165 place settings were positioned near the front steps of Idaho's Capitol building March 14 for National Ag Day.

The 165 place settings were a striking visual display that signified the number of people fed each year by the average American farmer.

That number is up dramatically from the 15 people the average U.S. farmer fed in 1940 and it shows just how important the nation's and state's farmers and rancher are, said officials from the Idaho State Department of Agriculture, which hosted the event.

"We really wanted that visual impact to show how our farmers and ranchers feed all of us and the world," said ISDA Chief of Operations Chanel Tewalt.

The three-hour event included a separate table that showed how much food every person in the state would have to eat every day if Idahoans had to consume all the farm products produced in the state.

That would be 43 potatoes, 180 slices of bread, three cups of beans, two onions, two pounds of beef, two pounds of cheese, two onions "and a whole lot more," Tewalt said. "That is astounding and it shows the productivity of our farmers and ranchers."

The event included a display with facts about how agriculture helps support the state's economy, including that farming, ranching and food processing generate almost 20 percent of the state's total sales.

"Those are numbers we want people to see," Tewalt said. "We really love the visual element of this particular type of showcase."

People visiting the display could also learn other facts about Idaho agriculture, including that the state's 24,000 farms and ranches produce 185 agricultural commodities and export \$2 billion worth of ag products annually to other nations.

Or that Idaho ranks No. 1 in the nation in potato, barley and trout production, No. 2 in hops, alfalfa hay, sugar beets and



Photo by Sean Ellis

**People visit a display in front of Idaho's Capitol building steps March 14 during an event that celebrated National Ag Day. The tables in the background had 165 place settings that signified how many people the average American farmer feeds each year.**

peppermint, No. 3 in cheese and No. 4 in milk, onions, spring wheat and lentils.

The event also commemorated the 100th anniversary of the Idaho State Department of Agriculture but ISDA Director Celia Gould said the event was not about celebrating the department.

"The main point we want to get across to people today is how important Idaho's farmers and ranchers are," she said. "This isn't ISDA celebrating ag day. This is us showcasing what Idaho's producers do for all of us."

Tewalt said the main points the department wanted people who viewed the display to walk away with are that "Agriculture is part of our culture and heritage. It's a huge part of our economy; it's the economic engine of Idaho. And it is truly what puts food on our table."

Stacey Katseanes Satterlee, executive director of the Idaho Grain Producers Association, said the event was a great platform to educate people, particularly urban residents, about agriculture and help

farmers and ranchers tell their story.

"If we're not telling our story, somebody else is telling it and there's so much misinformation about agriculture out there and so much of it is fear-based information that is not correct," she said. "We don't have anything to be afraid of. We need to tell our story. People should be proud of how their wheat and barley is grown here in the state."

During the event, several lawmakers and Gov. Brad Little visited the display during a break in legislative activities.

Rep. Thomas Dayley, R-Boise, said it's important to use events like this one to educate Idahoans about how important agriculture is to them personally.

"Agriculture is important to each individual Idahoan, not only because they eat but because of what agriculture means to the Idaho economy," he said. "This is a great idea that the department of agriculture had to make sure that people focus on how important agriculture is to the state and to the world." ■

# Southwest Barley Salad

Provided by Idaho  
Barley Commission

Course: Lunch, Main Dish - Servings, 6

## Ingredients

3 cups reduced sodium chicken broth  
3/4 cup uncooked medium pearl barley  
1 cup fresh or frozen corn  
1 cup canned black beans, rinsed and drained  
3/4 cup chopped sweet red pepper  
1/2 cup chopped green pepper  
1/2 cup chopped green onions  
1/2 cup minced fresh cilantro  
1 clove garlic, minced  
1/2 cup salsa  
3 tablespoons reduced fat sour cream  
2 tablespoons lime or lemon juice

## Instructions

In a sauce pan, bring broth to a boil. Stir in barley. Reduce heat; cover and simmer for 40 to 45 minutes or until tender. Drain and cool.

In a large bowl, combine the corn, beans, peppers, onions, cilantro and garlic. Stir in barley.

Just before serving, combine the salsa, sour cream and lime juice; add to barley mixture. Serve warm or cold.



## Export

*Continued from page 26*

said. “But without the headwinds of tariffs, we could have done even better. We’ve missed opportunities because of those tariffs.”

Idaho sold \$240 million worth of farm products to Canada in 2018, making that nation the top destination for Gem State agricultural products. That represented an 11 percent increase over the 2017 total.

Idaho ag product exports to Mexico totaled \$178 million last year, a 5 percent increase.

Together, Canada and Mexico accounted for 49 percent of all Idaho ag export value during 2018.

Idaho ag exports to China decreased 4 percent to \$59 million last year and Gem State ag exports also decreased to South Korea (\$52 million, -9 percent), Netherlands (\$41 million, -5 percent), Japan (\$39 million, -15 percent) and Spain (\$21 million, -26 percent).

Ag exports to Australia increased 50 percent, to \$37 million, and they were up 43 percent (\$12 million) to Thailand and 97 percent (\$10 million) to New Zealand.

Total dairy exports from Idaho increased 17 percent to \$212 million and oilseed exports were up 5 percent to \$115 million.

Exports listed under the “edible vegetables” category declined by

15 percent, to \$118 million, and exports listed under the “milling, malt and starch” category dropped 12 percent, to \$87 million.

Exports of live animals jumped by 83 percent to \$35 million. Almost all of those were dairy steers heading to feedlots in Canada.

All of these totals are based on Census Bureau data that is broken down on a quarterly basis for the ISDA by a private company.

A separate set of data based on U.S. Department of Agriculture information is released each October. That data, which is less timely than the Census Bureau data, shows that Idaho ag export value was up 6 percent during 2017.

While the Census Bureau data is timelier because it’s released quarterly, it doesn’t capture all of the state’s farm product exports because it doesn’t capture products that moved to another state before being shipped overseas.

The USDA data does capture those products.

However, ISDA officials say the Census data is valuable because it shows current export trends and both the Census and USDA data show that Idaho ag exports are trending up.

From 2011 to 2014, total Idaho ag export value, according to the Census Bureau data, increased from \$834 million to \$922 million to \$979 million to \$1.02 billion. Each year was a new record. ■



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# Why a republic is right for America

Every day, schoolchildren pledge allegiance to the flag “and to the republic for which it stands.” Unfortunately, very few of us pause to consider what that actually means. We are promising our support, loyalty, commitment and fidelity to the republican form of government.

When asked what type of government our new country would have, Benjamin Franklin replied, “A republic, if you can keep it.” The founding fathers knew the temptation would be great to move away from a republic, but they were convinced it was the best possible form of government to ensure all citizens were equally protected.

The Declaration of Independence reminds us that the purpose of government is to secure legitimate rights. A republic is a superior form of government to accomplish that goal. The founders were so adamant about this they declared in article IV, Section 4 of the U.S. Constitution, “The United States shall guarantee to every state in this union a republican form of government.”

Despite the common notion that we live in a democracy, we thankfully do not. A republic means we elect representatives who take the necessary time to study all proposed laws in depth. They listen to experts and affected parties on both sides of the issue and make informed decisions during a very deliberative process to ensure the rights of the minority are protected against the wishes of the majority.

Direct democracy, on the other hand, is rightfully referred to as “mob rule.” It is the will of the majority, no matter how unjust toward those in the minority. It has been remarked, “Democracy is two wolves and a lamb voting on what to have for dinner.”

The founders specifically rejected direct democracy, knowing its tendency

toward destroying legitimate rights. James Madison wrote, “Democracies have, in general, been as short in their lives as they have been violent in their deaths.”

The reason direct democracies fail is majorities learn they can “legally” take property and/or liberties away from others. Anyone outside the current majority coalition can be subjected to such abuse. Direct democracy effectively divides people. Those in the larger group loot what they want from those in the smaller group.

When a majority votes to take from some to give to others, it is a violation of rights and is precisely what our republican form of government is designed to protect against. Is it perfect? Of course not, but so long as we elect ethical, honest people who are dedicated to upholding the constitution, it will be far more effective at protecting all citizens than direct democracy.

Consequently, the U.S. Constitution does not allow for direct democracy (ballot initiatives) at the national level. The Idaho Constitution also did not allow for initiatives until a wave of progressivism swept across the country in the early 20th Century. Several states amended their constitutions to allow for initiatives, despite it being in direct conflict with the republican form of government guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution.

Nevertheless, until initiatives are overturned by courts under this guarantee of the U.S. Constitution, they will continue to be a protected right of Idaho citizens. Therefore, the question becomes, what are the appropriate standards for initiatives to ensure they don’t exploit a minority of citizens?

The Idaho Constitution specifies initiatives may be conducted “under such conditions and in such manner as

may be provided by acts of the legislature.” Clearly, the people believed it was appropriate for the legislature to set standards.

Some argue that our current standards are too high. However, when compared with those originally set in the 1930s, today’s standards are extremely lenient considering the amazing advances made in travel, communications and technology since then. It is clear from observing other states with lower standards that relaxing ours would not be in the best interest of Idahoans.

Recently, due to increasing urbanization, many states have adopted a geographic requirement, meaning signatures must be gathered across the state, not just in highly populated areas. Even the liberal 9th Circuit Court has stated, “courts that have addressed the issue have uniformly upheld geographic distribution requirements for signature collection when they have been based on (equally populous) districts.”

Farm Bureau members believe one crucial protection for the minority is requiring signature gathering from every corner of the state. If an idea is good for all people, it will not be difficult to gather a minimal number of signatures from all 35 legislative districts before an initiative qualifies for the ballot. This standard is working well in other states.

The founders laid a solid foundation for us and our posterity to guarantee the rights of all, not just the current majority. Pledging our allegiance is laudable but putting that pledge into action by ensuring the rights of the minority are protected is where we can truly make a difference.

*Russ Hendricks is director of governmental affairs for Idaho Farm Bureau Federation.* ■



Photo by Randy Brooks

Lack of sleep can lead to fatigue in the woods or on the farm.

# Fatigue on the farm or in the forest can affect us all

By Randy Brooks and Callie Collins  
*University of Idaho*

Ever pulled an all-nighter or worked a 14-plus hour day? Do you or someone you know or work with have issues sleeping at night? If you can answer yes to one or both of these questions, you've experienced fatigue.

What does this have to do with forestry or

farming? Per capita, logging is the deadliest profession in the United States with 132 fatalities per 100,000 workers. Almost 80 percent of the fatalities occur through contact with equipment or objects, 15 percent involve transportation incidents, about 5 percent occur from slips, trips, and falls, and the rest are attributed to miscellaneous.

Farming/ranching is No. 8 on the list of





the Top 10 deadliest jobs in the U.S. with 22 fatalities per 100,000 workers.

What's unclear from investigations into fatalities are the real underlying causes of these unfortunate events. Many appear to be "freak" accidents, and perhaps they are all sheer coincidence. But might fatigue be the hidden culprit?

The primary cause of fatigue is not enough sleep and research into automobile accidents shows that in 2013, over 72,000 automobile accidents were attributed to fatigued driving. Of these accidents, there were over 44,000 injuries and 800 fatalities.

Research also indicates that there is a 60 percent greater chance of occupational injuries associated with working overtime. Additionally, 12-hour work days lead to a 37 percent increase in hazard rates while 60-hour work weeks lead to a 23 percent increase in work related illness or injury.

How many of us get at least eight hours of sleep every night? The Centers for Disease Control recommends that adults get 7-9 hours of sleep each night. A recent straw poll of over 350 loggers and woods-workers

attending the University of Idaho's Extension Logger Education workshops shows that very few – less than 3 percent – get at least six hours of sleep a night.

Chronic sleep deprivation can lead to many physiological impairments in the human body, including cardiovascular, metabolic, and respiratory functions. Anything less than eight hours of sleep decreases time to physical exhaustion by 10-30 percent and among other things, decreases the body's ability to sweat during physical exertion.

In short, this decreases an individual's endurance and performance.

Inadequate sleep also decreases the immune system. Moreover, anything less than six hours of sleep more than doubles the risk of cancer, contributes to Alzheimer's disease, disrupts blood sugar levels, makes you hungrier, and can lead to coronary artery blockage, cardiovascular disease, stroke, and congestive heart failure.

These facts are pretty sobering and should be a "wake-up" call (pun intended).

Research also shows that less than one week of sleep curtailment in healthy young people is associated with changes in metabolic and endocrine function, leading to decreased carbohydrate tolerance.

Chronic sleep deprivation predicts a massively higher risk of injury in athletes and it also leads to lower work production. One brain function that buckles under even the slightest amount of sleep deprivation is concentration and a major consequence of a lack of concentration due to sleep deprivation is in the form of drowsy driving.

Driving performance after 18 hours of work is equivalent to driving with a 0.05 percent blood alcohol content, while driving after 24 hours of work is equivalent to driving at 0.10 percent blood alcohol content.

Fatigue has several dangers but the main one is reduced safety due to substantial cognitive impairment leading to decreased situational awareness. Working long days for 7-14 days requires at least three nights of eight hours of sleep to recover. Hopefully, we are creating a picture for you of perhaps why accidents may happen in the woods, or on the farm or ranch.

We have been conducting fatigue and sleep research on wildland firefighters (online, see

<https://apnews.com/498fcf4809634da49dd02a0e605e9c82>) with plans to monitor loggers during the fall and winter of 2019. Using technology developed by the U.S. Army Research Lab, we can track the quantity and quality of sleep wildland firefighters get each night and compare their on-fire vs. off-fire times.

This technology uses the sleep data to provide a fatigue rating (or alertness score) on a scale of 0-100. A score of 90 or less means the person is fatigued and reaction times are slowed and blood alcohol equivalents can be seen in Table 1 which is shown on page 34.

To further illustrate this, using the monitoring technology mentioned above, column 2 in Table 1 lists the alertness scores and percentage of time Randy Brooks, the co-author of this article, spent in each alertness zone based on sleep quantity and quality from July 1 to July 31. Only 57.4 percent of the time that month was spent in the high alertness zone.

More importantly, 5.1 percent of the time was spent in a low state (0-70) of alertness where reaction time was slowed

*'Farming/ranching is No. 8 on the list of the Top 10 deadliest jobs in the U.S. with 22 fatalities per 100,000 workers. What's unclear from investigations into fatalities are the real underlying causes of these unfortunate events.'*

by 55 percent or more which is equivalent to a blood alcohol concentration of 0.08 percent or greater with a high risk of accident or serious error.

Now imagine yourself working in the woods or on the farm or ranch and your reaction time is reduced by half or more. Could this be a reason behind many close-call accidents? That remains to be seen, but it's something we are working on.

What can we do to improve sleep and reduce fatigue? We've used the term BMPs (Best Management Practices) in this column frequently, so we recommend the following BMPs for sleep. CDC recommends 7-9 hours of sleep each day in order to function at the highest level of effectiveness, physically and mentally.

Additionally, according to Dr. Matthew Walker, "In the context of injury there is no better risk-mitigating insurance policy than sleep."

What follows is a bulleted list of practices we can all implement to try to help us get better sleep and consequently, reduce fatigue:

- Reduce caffeine, alcohol, screen technology, and have a cool bedroom.
- No caffeine after 2 p.m.
- No alcohol three hours prior to bed. Alcohol induces the liver to produce ketones and aldehydes, which actually wake us up.
- Establish regular bed-time and wake-up times. This is the single most effective BMP.
- Go to bed when sleepy, avoid couch dozing after work.
- Don't lie in bed awake, get up and do something relaxing.
- Reduce anxiety-provoking thoughts and worries. Unwind

and relax.

- Remove visible clock faces to prevent clock watching.
- Restrict time in bed – stay awake longer.
- Build up sleep pressure.
- No exercise less than two hours prior to bedtime. Keep your body temperature low and reduce your metabolic rate.
- Take a hot bath. It relaxes you and as your body temperature drops, you feel sleepy.
- One-hour exposure to natural sunlight – it's important for keeping circadian rhythm (our biological clock) in check.
- Eating a high-carbohydrate meal pre-bedtime equals less deep sleep and more awakenings.
- Avoid being too full or too hungry.

As a disclaimer, this list is a generalization and can be found by googling "sleep hygiene tips." If you have sleep issues, please consult a physician.

We will close with one more question? How many of you conduct maintenance on your equipment – tractors, cars, trucks, chainsaws? We are all good at maintaining our equipment, so why don't we maintain our most important piece of equipment – our bodies?

This can be accomplished in part by getting more sleep. By doing so, we may be able to reduce our fatigue levels and possibly avoid an accident. For information on body composition changes in wildland firefighters that we have been researching, see our article online here: <https://www.mdpi.com/2571-6255/1/3/48/htm>.

*Randy Brooks is an Extension forestry specialist for the University of Idaho and Callie Collins is his Ph.D. student also located at the University of Idaho. ■*

**Table 1. Alertness scores defined and the percent of time the author spent in each zone.**

<b>Alertness Score (zones)</b>	<b>Percent of time spent in each</b>	<b>Reaction time reduction</b>	<b>Blood alcohol equivalence</b>	<b>Risk of accident or serious error</b>
91-100	57.4	5%	0%	Very low
81-90	30.9	18%	0%	Low
18-80	6.6	34%	0.05%	Elevated
61-70	3.4	55%	≥ 0.08%	High
0-60	1.7	100%	≥ 0.11%	Very High

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# Hops

Continued from page 27

alpha hops shifted from about 50-50 to 80 percent aroma varieties. In 2018, alpha varieties regained some ground and the balance was roughly 74-26 in favor of aroma varieties.

During a presentation to Idaho lawmakers this year, Michelle Gooding, president of the Idaho Hop Growers Association, said Idaho had traditionally been an alpha hop state and before the explosion in demand for aroma varieties, the state's hop industry faced an existential threat.

"There was a really dark time when hops weren't going to be here in Idaho ... but the craft revolution definitely changed that and it's a pretty exciting time in the industry (now)," she said.

Gooding also pointed out that in 2012, Idaho will host the National Hop Convention for the first time in 30 years.

Obendorf said that with supply catching up with demand, he doesn't see Idaho farmers adding a significant amount of new hop acres next year.

"It can't keep going," he said. "I think the market will start tilting to be oversupplied."

Gooding told lawmakers that one of the questions she gets

asked the most is when the hop market will crash.

"I don't know but hopefully not soon," she said. "We really have a lot of confidence in the ability of (hop growers) to produce a quality crop that they can (market)."

As Idaho hop acreage and production have exploded, the crop has risen rapidly up the state rankings of farm commodities in terms of total cash receipts.

Hops, which generated \$86 million in revenue for Idaho farmers last year, jumped into the list of Idaho's top 10 farm commodities in 2016 and could rise as high as No. 8 this year.

Along with the increase in hop acres, "We have had a lot of infrastructure invested into our area," Gooding told legislators.

In 2017, Idaho got its first hop pelletizing plant, Mill 95. There are several other hop mills in the United States, most of which are in Washington.

A large majority of Idaho hops are processed into pellets for the brewing process and before Mill 95 went operational, all of them were shipped out of state. Mill 95 gives Idaho hop farmers the option of having their hops pelletized locally, which could reduce transportation costs. ■



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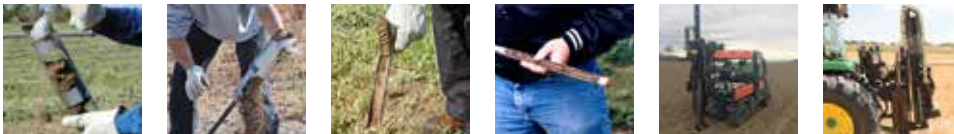
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## MISCELLANEOUS

Last of the 2018 English Walnut crop. Locally grown. Only 25lbs left. \$4 per pound - shelled. Caldwell, ID. 208-989-2522.

100-foot roll Oregon 404 52AK full skip square ground chisel saw chain. \$200. Lewiston, Id. 208-743-9204.

Farm to Freezer Pork - Whole, half hogs, 40-pound variety pack, Located in Swan Lake, Idaho, Prices on our Henderson Hogs Facebook page. Order by calling Monte Henderson (208) 317-1679.

Vega Pro Model D-48 Lathe duplicator. \$350. Call 208-731-3544. Stain Glass making tools and supplies. Call 208-539-3755.

Premium Sharpening: Clipper grooming blades, scissors, knives, clipper, motor

repair. Call Vic for further info. Lewiston, ID. 208-798-3391.

Stay cozy with Blaze Kin. Brick-lined wood stove with practically new pipe included. Excellent heat, warms almost all of our two-story home. \$600. Kirby vacuum, excellent condition, Nikken water purifier, clean, new filter. Rexburg, Id. 208-206-7495.

1964 Chevy 2-ton bobtail truck grain bed, hoist. \$3,500; Mortar mixer 8 h.p. gas motor, \$500; Toro Riding lawn mower, automatic. 16 h.p. gas engine. \$600; 27 Featherlite camp trailer, bumper pull, self-contained, Nice \$8,000. 208-232-2166 or 269-8355.

1964 2 ton Chevrolet dump truck hoist with grain bed. Runs strong \$3500; Mortar mixer with 8 HP Honda gas engine, runs well \$400; Toro Riding Lawn mower, 16 HP gas engine \$300. Pocatello, Id 208-269-8355.

Idaho Log Cabin kits - smaller designs from 240 sq ft and larger. Very affordable - prices starting at \$3,800. Perfect for tiny houses, cabins, or homes. Call for more info and pics. John 208-781-0691.

1975 Corvette hard top soft top. 400 V-8 automatic. Lots of extras \$12,500 obo; 1959 Willys Jeep truck \$3,500; 1972 Triumph Spitfire \$1,000; 2 EA electric fencers \$60 each; 1930's wood burning stove brown porcelain \$500. Preston, ID 208-427-6231.

## REAL ESTATE/ACREAGE

52 acres of agriculture land in Ashton, ID. 14 acres fenced pasture, 38-acre farm. Water rights, gravity flow irrigation, 40h pump/well and irrigation pipe. Potential for subdivision. Paved road to property. Beauty all around. \$340,000. Call (208)251-9056.

Lot for Sale - 1/2 Acre Country Lot. Build a New Home or New Mfg Hm. City water, Gas, most utilities available. Must obtain septic & water permits. Shelley Area. 208-528-5337. Leave message.

Oceanfront fishing cabin on Prince of Wales Island. Half Acre lot, electricity, plumbing, sewer all in. See on Zillow at Whale Pass, AK 99921. Asking \$129,000. 208-659-7119.

2,124 Acres Zoned Commercial in AZ. 4 buildings, 13,408 SQ ft total Canopy

parking, Equipment shed, 80 Ft commo tower, Chain link fence with electric gates, Lg kitchen in Wellton AZ. A small farming town 30 miles from Yuma. Call Alex 208-452-5335.

Mobile Home for sale. Exit 90, Mountain Home. Heavily remodeled, owner only park. Various sizes and pricing. Affordable lot fee, including W.S.G. Good snowbird base, easy access to Boise and the mountain. Call David 208-220-8589.

## RECREATIONAL

2008 Sunnybrook travel trailer. 29 ft. 1 slide, sleeps 8. Nampa, ID 208-989-5402.

1997 Honda Valkyrie \$4,500, 1989 Yamaha XT350 \$400. Both run very well, obo. Hayden, Id 208-651-1125

## TRAILERS

Heavy duty 2 axle flatbed car hauler. \$1,800. Leave message. Gooding, Id. 208-785-0795.

## WANTED

Need one or two handles for cross cut saw. Lewiston, Id. Call 208-743-9204.

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. 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 208-530-6466.

# 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 is 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. Proofread your ad. Ads must be received by May 17 for the June Producer.

Mail ad copy to:  
**FARM BUREAU PRODUCER**  
 P.O. Box 4848, Pocatello, ID 83205-4848  
 or email Dixie at [dashton@idahofb.org](mailto:dashton@idahofb.org)

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\*\*\*Farm Bureau Bonus Cash is exclusively for active Farm Bureau members who are residents of the United States. This incentive is not available on Shelby GT350®, Shelby® GT350R, Mustang Bullitt®, Ford GT, Focus RS and F-150 Raptor. This offer may not be used in conjunction with most other Ford/Motor Company private incentives or AXZO-Plans. Some customer and purchase eligibility restrictions apply. Must be a Farm Bureau member for 30 consecutive days prior to purchase and take new retail delivery from dealer by January 2, 2020. Visit [FordFarmBureauAdvantage.com](http://FordFarmBureauAdvantage.com) or see your authorized Ford Dealer for qualifications and complete details.

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**FARM BUREAU ONLINE  
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