



**Mini-ranchettes  
and dream farms**  
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for organic hay**  
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# Capital Press

## The West's Ag Weekly

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9, 2009



VOLUME 82, NUMBER 41

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# Herd retirement rides again

*Bids capped at \$5.25  
per hundredweight,  
due Oct. 15*

By **CAROL RYAN DUMAS**  
Capital Press

Cooperatives Working Together is taking more dairy cows out of production in an effort to improve milk prices. Producers wishing to bid

for a herd buyout must do so quickly. Bids for the latest buyout, announced Thursday, Oct. 1, are due Thursday, Oct. 15. It's CWT's third herd retirement of 2009 and the fourth in the past 12 months.

"We've made a huge effort to get the amount of milk back in line with diminished demand," said Jim Tillison, CWT's chief operating officer. "We hope to get to where producers

are at break-even sometime this fall."

Tillison said an analysis by the National Milk Producers Federation shows that CWT's efforts will speed market recovery by six months. Without the herd retirements, supply and demand wouldn't begin coming back in balance until spring. With CWT, that equilibrium will be reached sometime this fall.

### More inside

Cattlemen worry retirement will hurt beef prices, Page 8.  
Ag officials urge USDA to act on aid for dairy products, Page 8.

With producers losing at least \$100 per cow per month, that six months will make a

big difference in producers' survival rate, he said.

The herd retirement of late 2008, plus the two herd retirements so far in 2009, have removed 226,000 cows from the nation's dairy herds, said Jerry Kozak, president and CEO of the National Milk Producers Federation, which manages Cooperatives Working Together.

"Those efforts have helped

adjust the supply of milk more in line with demand. This third herd retirement of 2009, along with a stabilizing global economy, should further accelerate the recovery in dairy farmers' prices," he said.

While Tillison didn't disclose the program's budget, he said National Milk Producers knew at the start of the year it

*Turn to HERD, Page 8*

# Divided over land rights

*Nearly 40 years later,  
farmer's land-use vision  
is still alive — and  
still fiercely debated*

By **MITCH LIES**  
Capital Press

CORVALLIS, Ore. — In the late 1960s, with the population rapidly expanding in Western Oregon, dairyman Hector Macpherson concluded it was only a matter of time before his Willamette Valley farm was swallowed by development.

That realization was the genesis of Oregon's land-use laws.

Macpherson, who in 1967 was on the Linn County Planning Commission, brought his concerns to state officials.

Six years later, Macpherson, who was by then a state senator, with the help of Gov. Tom McCall, wrote what became one of the most significant laws in Oregon history.

Senate Bill 100, which lawmakers adopted in 1973, put in place a land-use system that today, depending on who you ask, is either heralded or derided.

Macpherson, now 91, said he knew all along it would be a tremendously controversial bill. But, he said, only a strong land-use law could protect farms from urban sprawl.

To generate support, Macpherson packed the bill with benefits for farmers.

"I always knew it was going to be controversial," he said. "I pulled all the advantages I could into it."

Senate Bill 100 and its companion bill, Senate Bill 101, included the first right-to-farm law in Oregon, tax breaks for farms in exclusive farm use zones and a promise that the state would compensate landowners for lost value caused by a land-use restriction.

Section 24 of SB100 instructed a committee to "make recommendations to the Legislative Assembly on the implementation of a program for compensation ... for the value of any loss of use of such lands resulting directly from the imposition of any zoning...."



Hector Macpherson stands with his wife, Kitty, at the family farm east of Corvallis, Ore., in this 2001 photo. Macpherson, 91, is recognized as a forefather of Oregon's land-use system. A former dairyman, he served as an Oregon state senator from 1971 to 1975.

The benefits appeased rural lawmakers, and the bill sailed through both chambers 58-30 — a nearly 2-to-1 margin.

Bill Moshofsky, 86, vice president of government affairs for the property rights group Oregonians In Action, was a timber lobbyist in 1973. The timber industry opposed the bill, he said, but that opposition was muffled in part because of the compensation promised land owners and because the rules enacting SB100 had yet to be written.

Dave Hunnicutt, president of Oregonians In Action, said concern among property rights advocates

*Turn to LAND, Page 8*

### Land-use laws in the West

Following is a summary of land-use laws in four key Western states.

**Oregon:** State law restricts development on private property zoned exclusive farm use or exclusive forest use.

**Washington:** No state restrictions are in place. Land-use regulations are developed and regulated at the county and city level under some state direction.

**Idaho:** There are no state restrictions for development on privately owned farm or forest land. County restrictions typically call for 40-acre minimum lot sizes before housing is allowed, but counties regularly relax those

restrictions, said John Thompson, public relations director for the Idaho Farm Bureau.

**California:** The state does not regulate land-use practices except within the framework of the Williamson Act. Under it, farmers who agree to keep land undeveloped for at least 10 years are taxed based on their income-producing capacity as agricultural land. Development is allowed on farms not under Williamson Act contracts provided cities and counties approve. More than half of California's 30 million farm and ranch acres currently are protected under the act.

— Mitch Lies

# Pollan invite upsets alumni

*Cal Poly schedules  
panel discussion  
after ag outcry*

By **CECILIA PARSONS**  
Capital Press

Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo's decision to schedule food activist Michael Pollan has sparked widespread criticism from the production agriculture community.

The Oct. 15 event is being hosted by the College of Agriculture, Food and Environmental Science's Sustainable Agriculture Resource Consortium. Pollan will also be a featured speaker at a sold-out fundraising event for SARC on Oct. 14. The consortium was founded in 2000 to serve the agriculture department in its sustainability efforts.

Pollan, author of "The Omnivore's Dilemma" and other books questioning the sustainability of U.S. food production, has been a vocal critic of production systems. There have been similar controversies on college campuses, most recently Washington State University, when Pollan has been asked to speak.

Pollan was initially scheduled to be the only speaker at the free, open-to-the-public event Oct. 15. The format was changed to a panel discussion following an outcry from agri-



Pollan

*Turn to POLLAN, Page 8*

### Western innovator

# Farmer endeavors to harvest minerals from soil

*Diener seeks ways to  
profitably remove  
troublesome minerals  
from soil*

By **WES SANDER**  
Capital Press

Like farmers everywhere, John Diener wants the family business to thrive despite environmental challenges that always seem to get worse.

Having made strides in adopting techniques that control erosion, increase irrigation efficiency and reduce fuel use, Diener has most recently turned to an endeavor that could save San Joaquin Valley soils while opening new markets to valley farmers.

That endeavor is the extrac-

tion of minerals, which have built up in the soil to problem levels over the decades.

"We have a million-and-a-half acres that have a drainage issue that needs to be addressed," Diener said.

Like many valley farmers, Diener has had to fallow much of his land — a quarter of his 5,000 acres — as federal water deliveries dried up this year.

So his efforts over the years — involving techniques for erosion control, water efficiency and mineral mining, which can control soil salinity — seem a perfect fit to modern circumstances, helping to make farmland management more sustainable while improving farmers' economic viability.

"Now a lot of people are implementing the things we've done," Diener said. "People are

### John Diener

**Occupation:** Farmer  
**Hometown:** Five Points, Calif.

**Education:** Bachelor's degree in agricultural economics and business management, University of California-Davis

**Quote:** "The issue is, how do you pass the land on to the next generation in as good a shape as you received it?"

probably more aggressive out here about change."

His efficiency efforts are lauded by climate researchers and even organic farmers, despite the fact that he doesn't grow organically. Now that water supplies to the San Joaquin

*Turn to DIENER, Page 8*



Wes Sander/Capital Press

California farmer John Diener stands in a vineyard he operates on his family's land near Five Points. Having made strides in techniques that control erosion, expand watering efficiency and reduce fuel usage, Diener has most recently turned to an endeavor that could save valley soils while creating mineral markets for valley farmers.

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# House OKs ag appropriations bill

*Bill will include \$9 million for ag research in Oregon*

By **JIM ABRAMS**  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Nutrition, food stamp and dairy aid programs were among the winners as the House on Wednesday, Oct. 7, approved a \$121 billion agriculture spending bill for the 2010 budget year.

Reflecting the growing number of people scrambling to get by in tough economic times, the bill provides \$58.2 billion for the food stamp program, a jump of \$4.3 billion from last year.

Similarly, the federal nutrition program for women, in-

fants and children receives \$7.3 billion, up \$400 million from 2009 nonemergency levels. Aid to school and child care nutrition programs goes up \$1.9 billion to \$16.9 billion.

The vote on the bill was 263-162, with much of the opposition coming from Republicans concerned about the spending increases. “Our country is working to scrape its way out of a debilitating recession, and now is not the time to divert our precious resources to massive spending,” California Rep. Jerry Lewis, the top Republican on the appropriations committee, said.

But Rep. Rosa DeLauro, D-Conn., head of the appropri-



Wu

tions subcommittee on agriculture, defended the spending. “Our fundamental responsibility as legislators and leaders, to stay nothing of basic morality and fairness, demands that we do everything we can to help Americans suffering right now from poverty and malnutrition.”

Rep. David Wu, D-Ore, also defended the bill. “During this economic downturn, it is especially important that we continue our federal investment in the vital agricultural segment of our economy and help support our nation’s food system,” Wu said.

The bill includes nearly \$9 million for agricultural research in Oregon.

The legislation, the result of House-Senate negotiations, now goes to the Senate for a final vote before being sent to

the president for his signature.

The bill, which covers federal programs for the fiscal year that began Oct. 1, contains two major policy initiatives, one for dairy farmers and the other for imported poultry products from China.

Lawmakers from dairy-producing states succeeded in getting \$350 million in aid for milk farmers struggling to cope with falling market prices. That includes \$60 million to cover the federal purchase of surplus cheese and other dairy products. The purchased products would go to food banks and other nutrition programs.

The dairy aid proposal was welcomed by lawmakers from the Midwest and Northeast where dairy operations are smaller, but drew claims of unfairness from lawmakers in

California, home to much larger dairy farms.

Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., after meeting with Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack Wednesday, said she was encouraged that the Agriculture Department “is committed to ensuring that these emergency funds are distributed to our dairy producers in a way that is regionally equitable.”

Boxer’s office said she maintained a “hold” on the spending bill, a legislative move that makes bringing the bill to the Senate floor more difficult, while she clarifies the intent of the measure.

The House also agreed to a Senate proposal to lift a ban on poultry products imported from China conditioned on inspectors certifying that the products meet U.S. safety standards.

## In brief

### Rain delays corn, soybean harvest

SIOUX FALLS, S.D. (AP) — Wet ground is keeping South Dakota farmers from harvesting what is expected to be record corn and soybean crops.

The most recent Agriculture Department report, issued before rain spread through much of eastern South Dakota the past week, showed the corn harvest at 2 percent complete and the soybean harvest 16 percent complete.

Both are well below the five-year average, in part because a cool summer slowed crop maturity.

“We’ve had a lot of rain and not much harvest,” said Codrington County Extension Agronomist Chuck Langner at Watertown. “The big thing right now is we need to get the (corn) silage cut. With that big machinery, that’s going to be a problem.”

Langner said the delay poses a risk for soybean yields.

“Wet beans could be a problem with bursting if they dry down (and) then get wet again,” he said.

### Premium Protein ups furloughs

LINCOLN, Neb. (AP) — Premium Protein Products has again extended furloughs that began in June for about 400 workers.

Workers received word of the latest furlough extensions via a recorded phone message on Tuesday, Oct. 6.

The employees of the company’s plants in Hastings and Lincoln have been out of work since the furloughs began, and the plants will remain closed at least until Oct. 20.

Company officials did not immediately respond to a message The Associated Press left on Tuesday.

Premium Protein has its headquarters and a processing plant in Lincoln, and its slaughterhouse is in Hastings. The company specializes in providing beef, pork and chicken with a verified source.

Private equity firm Matlin Patterson in New York is the company’s majority owner.

### Feds to rewrite food safety rules

FRESNO, Calif. (AP) — Two federal agencies are teaming up to write new food safety rules for fresh produce, following foodborne illness outbreaks tied to fruits and vegetables in recent years.

The USDA announced Monday, Oct. 5, its fresh produce chief Leanne Skelton will work with the Food and Drug Administration to develop new produce regulations over the next six months.

As part of the process, officials will travel the country to talk with food safety officials and farmers — including small, organic growers — about the impact new rules would have on the industry.

The effort will build on guidance the FDA proposed in July to improve the safety of tomatoes, leafy greens and melons.

# Chaos erupts at milk protest

*EU farmers flood Brussels, spray milk from cows’ udders*

BRUSSELS (AP) — Farmers drove hundreds of tractors and a lone cow to the heart of the European Union bureaucracy on Monday, Oct. 5, pelting police with bottles and chickens and dumping milk and manure onto the streets of Brussels in a protest against collapsing milk prices.

Over 2,500 farmers from across the EU burned tires and hay outside an emergency meeting of farm ministers.

They sprayed milk from huge canisters, and the cow’s udder, on a square close to the meeting. The jittery cow was frightened by firecrackers, sprang loose and chased an office worker down the street.

The farmers used heavy tractors to block major highways into Brussels and streets in the urban center, creating traffic chaos for dozens of miles outside the city for much of the day, keeping tens of thousands of commuters moving at a snail’s pace.



AP Photo/Yves Logghe

A farmer sprays riot police with milk from a cows udder during a demonstration in front of EU headquarters in Brussels, Monday Oct. 5.

Farmers’ demonstrations have often been violent in the past and there was a massive police presence that further choked roads throughout the capital.

Officers prevented the farmers from getting too close to the meeting and there was no major violence.

The farmers’ major demand — limiting production through quotas to drive up

prices — met with no success. EU officials said they still intend to gradually create freer markets for European farm products.

“There will be no backtracking,” said EU Farm Commissioner Mariann Fischer Boel.

Farmers want regulation to shield them from market fluctuations and have been protesting for weeks, arguing

production costs are currently up to twice as high as market prices. They have dumped tens of millions of gallons (liters) of milk into streets and fields to highlight their plight.

“If there is no change by this winter, I will have to stop milking,” said Belgian farmer Richard Patrice. “Every day I lose money. It is as if every morning I wake up and I burn a 50 euro (\$73) bill.”

## Monsanto’s fourth-quarter loss widens

By **CHRISTOPHER LEONARD**  
Associated Press

ST. LOUIS — Monsanto Co., the world’s biggest seed maker, said Wednesday its fourth-quarter loss widened to \$233 million in the fourth quarter on lower revenue, led by a drop in sales of its Roundup herbicide which is facing on onslaught of generic competition.

Its adjusted earnings narrowly beat Wall Street estimates, however.

Monsanto said its loss amounted to 43 cents per share in the quarter ended Aug. 31. That’s larger than its loss of \$172 million, or 31 cents per

share, a year earlier.

When one-time items are excluded, Monsanto said it earned 2 cents per share on an ongoing basis, beating Wall Street estimates for earnings of 1 cent per share. The estimates typically exclude one-time items.

Revenue fell to \$1.88 billion from \$2.05 billion the previous year.

The global market for Roundup has been deteriorating as rivals flood the market with generic versions of the chemical.

Sales in the agricultural chemical division, which includes Roundup, fell 12.5 percent to \$971 million. By con-

trast, sales in Monsanto’s seed and genomics division fell nearly 4 percent to \$908 million during the quarter.

Chief Executive Hugh Grant said Monsanto is still on target to meet its 2007 goal of doubling that year’s profits by 2012. The decline in Roundup sales only strengthens Monsanto’s plan to focus on genetically engineered crops, while de-emphasizing its longstanding chemical business.

“We believe today, as we did in the fall of 2007, that the growth of this company is absolutely, directly correlated to the value of our seeds and traits on the farm,” Grant said during a conference call Wednesday.

day.

Monsanto is moving ahead aggressively with its plan to release corn plants with multiple engineered genes, called SmartStax corn, during 2010, Grant said. A boost in sales of the more expensive SmartStax seeds helped Monsanto boost its corn seed profits by 10 percent during the fourth quarter.

The company posted a \$114 million charge for its restructuring plan that started in the summer and will cut 900 jobs, or 4 percent of its work force. Grant said the jobs cuts will help Monsanto focus more on selling seeds than chemicals.

The company’s stock fell \$1.06, or 1.4 percent, to \$74.30

## Colleagues remember Nobel Prize winner

*Borlaug ‘inspired thousands to work to feed the world’*

COLLEGE STATION, Texas (AP) — Colleagues and friends of Norman Borlaug remembered the Nobel Peace Prize winner on Tuesday as a humanitarian who “built armies of agricultural workers” to combat famine in the world’s developing countries.

Defense Secretary Robert Gates, who was president of Texas A&M University during the scientist’s tenure at the school, told about 1,000 who attended the memorial that Borlaug was a teacher, a scientist and a warrior against hunger.

He “inspired thousands to work to feed the world, and inspired millions to believe it’s possible. Our most important observance of Norm’s passing,”

Gates said, is to persist in that work and in that belief.

Borlaug was known as the father of the “green revolution,” which transformed agriculture



Borlaug

through high-yield, disease-resistant crop varieties and other innovations, helping to more than double world food production between 1960 and 1990. Many experts credit the green revolution with averting global famine during the second half of the 20th century and saving perhaps 1 billion lives.

Borlaug, who was 95 when he died Sept. 12 from complications of cancer, was described Tuesday as a humble, compassionate, soft-spoken and dedicated man who believed all have a duty to contribute to the eradication of hunger worldwide.

## Regulator to review health risk of atrazine

By **DINA CAPIELLO**  
Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) — The Environmental Protection Agency said Wednesday that it will re-evaluate the health effects of a popular weed killer that has been found in drinking water supplies in the United States.

The EPA will take another look at the science on atrazine, a herbicide commonly used on corn (maize) and other crops, and decide whether further restrictions are needed to protect human health. Research has shown that runoff after rainstorms can wash the chemical into streams and rivers, where it can enter drinking water supplies.

EPA monitoring of 150 drinking water systems in the American Midwest, where the chemical is used most heavily, have

not detected it at concentrations that would trigger health problems, including cancer. But new studies have shown that even at low levels atrazine in drinking water can cause low birth weights, birth defects and reproductive problems.

In 2003, under the George W. Bush administration, the EPA allowed the continued use of atrazine with few restrictions.

Environmentalists on Wednesday, Oct. 7 hoped the new review would lead to the chemical being phased out.

“The hope is that they will decide at the end of the day that they should be regulating it more stringently, or they will just take it off the market,” said Mae Wu, an attorney with the Natural Resources Defense Council. The NRDC sued the EPA in 2003 for failing to evaluate adequately atrazine’s effects on endangered species.

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### Corrections

In an article in the Oct. 2 edition of the Capital Press, “Dam deal lurches forward,” a quote from the Klamath Off-Project Water Users’ president, Tom Mallams, should have read, “That’s going to be the result if all this goes through.” Mallams was referring to the end of irrigated agriculture in the Klamath basin if the Klamath Basin Restoration Agreement is implemented.

In another story, the Portland-based certifier of sustainable agriculture Food Alliance was incorrectly referred to as Farm Alliance. Capital Press regrets the errors.

If you see a misstatement, omission or factual error in a headline, story or photo caption, please call the Capital Press news department at 503-364-4431.



# Ecology water power defined

*AG rules agency cannot reduce volume of water drawn from exempt wells*

By **MATTHEW WEAVER**  
Capital Press

Washington cattle producers say they are relieved that stock watering options remain the same in the wake of a legal opinion limiting the Department of Ecology’s authority over water rights.

State Attorney General Rob McKenna issued an opinion last month that the state Department of Ecology cannot reduce exempt withdrawals of groundwater below those specified under the law.

The opinion also concluded the department can temporarily stop water from further appropriations if enough data are not available to evaluate the impacts on senior water rights.

However, the department does not have the authority to reduce the volume of water withdrawn through exempt wells, McKenna said.

“If you have a home, a half-acre lawn and garden, or you have livestock you’re watering, you get one 5,000-gallon-a-day exemption for your home, another for your lawn and garden and a third for stock water,” said Dan Partridge, communications manager for the Department of Ecology water resources program. The stock water exemption is unlimited.

Washington Cattlemen’s Association Vice President Jack Field said the issue is especially important in northern Kittitas County. Due to concerns about the impact on the aquifer, the department had placed a moratorium on new wells for domestic use, Field said.

County commissioners were concerned about a potential precedent, enabling the department to limit arbitrarily the development or use of wells, Field said.

The cattlemen’s association was especially concerned because stock watering was included in the moratorium. A 2005 opinion from the attorney general found the exemption for stock watering is unlimited.

“We don’t see a huge number of livestock operations wanting to be sited in the upper county tomorrow,” Field said. “If a precedent was set, you had to purchase mitigation water before you could drill a stock water well. We were quite concerned that would set a very bad precedent for the future of the livestock industry in Washington state.”

Cattle Producers of Washington President Wade King said the opinion strengthens the cattlemen’s position.

“Right now, the law is protecting us,” he said. “We’re glad to hear Rob McKenna feels the way he does, that the law speaks for itself. It’s very plain, and he’s comfortable defending it.”

While the Ecology Department knows what it “can or can’t do” in Kittitas County, Partridge said, department attorneys and the attorney general’s office are analyzing the effects on other river basins.

“We’re evaluating our options right now on where we go from here,” Partridge said. “Technically, we don’t have to follow the opinion, but as a practical matter, we probably will in developing our water policy in Kittitas County and elsewhere in the state.”

The opinion points out the importance of obtaining water rights and mitigation water for exempt well use, Partridge said. Then the chances of water being cut off during drought or shortages are reduced significantly, he said.

The opinion has “limited the options we can use in regulating exempt wells in river basins,” Partridge said. “It looks like our primary option is closing an entire river basin to new groundwater withdrawals if we want to regulate the use of exempt wells in that particular area.”

Field was glad to see the stock watering exemption maintained in its entirety.

“When people talk about stock water, they may only be thinking about dairies and feedlots,” Field said. “But if they make a change, it’s going to trickle down and it will impact your neighbor that’s got a handful of cows, potentially.”



Matthew Weaver/Capital Press  
Washington State Attorney General Rob McKenna, left, discusses information with cattle producer Todd Kelsey, center, and Willard Wolf during the Cattle Producers of Washington annual meeting Sept. 26 in Spokane Valley, Wash.

## Does opinion affect stock water lawsuit?

A state attorney general’s opinion limiting the Department of Ecology’s power over water withdrawals will have no effect on a lawsuit against a new feedlot, an assistant attorney general said.

“That issue was not in play in this most recent attorney general’s opinion,” Assistant Attorney General Alan Reichman said.

Franklin County farmer Scott Collin, Five Corners Family Farmers, the Center for Environmental Law and Policy and the Sierra Club are suing Easterday Ranches, Washington state and the Department of Ecology to require the proposed 30,000-cow feedlot to obtain a groundwater permit for all of its stock water.

The Washington Cattlemen’s Association supports the attorney general’s opinion and the stock watering exemption and has filed a request to intervene in the Easterday case to explain the importance of the exemption to the industry, Vice President Jack Field said.

— *Matthew Weaver*

### Online

Access the Sept. 21 opinion at the Washington State Attorney General’s Office website at [www.atg.wa.gov](http://www.atg.wa.gov).

# China’s poultry called key to pork exports

*Domestic producers urge U.S. to lift ban on Chinese imports*

By **CAROL RYAN DUMAS**  
Capital Press

The National Pork Producers Council is hopeful that congressional intention to lift a ban on poultry imports from China will result in regained markets for U.S. pork in China.

In late September, conferees agreed on language allowing USDA to use appropriated funds in fiscal year 2010 to implement a rule allowing imports of processed poultry or poultry products from China.

While imports have been banned since 2006 because of food-safety issues, USDA has not even been allowed funding to do a risk assessment of Chinese-processed poultry, said Dave Warner, National Pork’s director of communications.

National Pork Producers was part of a coalition of agriculture and business organizations that urged Congress to look closely at the issue, and it is pleased conferees moved forward.

“It sends a strong signal to China that the U.S. abides by its trade obligations and will base decisions about imports on sound science,” said Don Butler, president of the National Pork Producers Council. “We expect China to do the same.”

He said China is an important market for U.S. pork and exports to China are the council’s No. 1 trade priority.

As the world’s biggest exporter of pork, the U.S. pork industry has a compelling interest in making sure foreign governments base their trade decisions on science. Last year, the industry exported nearly \$5 billion of pork, including almost \$690 million to China, the second-largest destination.

That’s changed drastically this year, adding to the economic crisis pork producers have suffered for two years, losing \$22.50 per pig, Warner said.

A big factor in lost exports is the ban China placed on U.S. pork after the April 24 finding of the H1N1 virus, which has been commonly referred to as swine flu.

Lost exports of U.S. pork from April to until Sept. 1 totaled \$1.1 billion, Warner said. Nearly 30 countries put some restriction on U.S. pork following H1N1, even though people can’t get the flu by eating or handling pork. China’s ban is still in place.

Doing a science-based risk assessment on China’s poultry processing and lifting the ban on imports, if appropriate, are important to the U.S. pork industry, he said.

“It’s important we do that if we’re asking China and other trade partners to base their trading decisions on science,” he said.

China has also restricted U.S. pork exports if the swine were raised using ractopamine, a feed additive that helps produce muscle mass, Warner said.

The ingredient is FDA-approved with a withdrawal period before pigs go to processing. It has been approved in 24 countries including some Asian nations and is at the final step of inclusion in the U.N.’s internationally recognized standards.

Yet China bans pork from swine whose feed contains it.

That decision isn’t based on science, and it harms U.S. pork producers, he said.

“We think everyone ought to have their trade decisions, safety of the product, based on science,” he said.

### Online

National Pork Producers Council: [www.nppc.org](http://www.nppc.org)

Staff writer Carol Ryan Dumas is based in Twin Falls. E-mail: [crdumas@capitalpress.com](mailto:crdumas@capitalpress.com).

# Canola by any other name ...

*State’s oilseed restrictions too broad, forcing revision*

By **MITCH LIES**  
Capital Press

SALEM — The contentious debate over whether to allow canola production in certain parts of Oregon is back — and well before expected.

The issue — thought to be put to bed for the next three years — has resurfaced because of an error in how the state described canola in its ruling.

In restricting production of *Brassica rapa*, *Brassica napus* and *Brassica juncea* — scientific classifications associated with canola — the state in its rules inadvertently restricted production of Chinese cabbage, turnip, mustard and other crops.

“The intent was not to ban production of Chinese cabbage,” said Dan Hilburn, administrator of the Oregon Department of Agriculture’s plant division. “It appears we have more work to do to clarify our intent.”

The department, Hilburn said, is weighing how to address the inadvertent restrictions.

He suspects the department can change the rules with a minimum of difficulty.

Small rule changes, such as changing dates, typically can be done without public hearings, he said.

Still, he said, the department will need to open the process to public comment and perform paperwork required of even minor rule changes.

“It’ll take a lot of time,” Hilburn said. “Rule-making is time-consuming.”

Problems with the rules arose when the department tried to identify canola — a commercial term for the oil produced from the seed of canola plants — in scientific terms.

“In this case, the terms don’t match up very well,” he said.

Hilburn said that to his understanding there is no unique scientific term for canola.

The state has asked Oregon State University to help it better define canola in the rules.

The state earlier this year restricted canola-for-oil and canola-for-seed production in the Willamette Valley, Central Oregon and two areas in Eastern Oregon where high-value specialty seed is produced.

Fears are that widespread canola production and the subsequent development of volunteer canola plants will increase insect and disease pressure in vegetable seed crops and lower some seed purity through cross-pollination.

The state plans to revisit the restrictions in three years.

“The emancipation of women may have begun not with the vote, nor in the cities where women marched and carried signs and protested, but rather when they mounted a good cowhorse and realized how different and fine the view. . . . From the back of a horse, the world looked wider.”

— Joyce Gibson Roach, The Cowgirls, 1990

# Before the vote, there was rodeo



Mabel Strickland, champion roper. By R. Doubleday in Low Collection.

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— Matt Love, Special to The Oregonian

# Farm Bureau lists health needs

*Ag concerns include care providers, insurance tax credits*

By **DAVE WILKINS**  
Capital Press

Agriculture didn’t exactly lead the charge for health care reform, but there are some things that farm groups want in any bill that Congress may pass this year.

Farm and rural advocacy groups want the government to tackle the shortage of health care facilities, primary care doctors and other health professionals in rural areas.

They also want provisions that ensure that farmers and ranchers are able to afford coverage for themselves and their families — and if they choose to provide it — for their workers.

### Online

American Farm Bureau Federation: [www.fb.org](http://www.fb.org)

The American Farm Bureau Federation wants a bill that would allow agricultural operations that employ seasonal workers to qualify for small business tax credits to help cover health care costs.

AFBF President Bob Stallman told the Senate Finance Committee in a recent letter that a draft bill under consideration by the committee could disqualify many farmers and ranchers from such tax credits.

The provision would obligate employers of 50 or more workers to reimburse the government for tax credits used by their employees to purchase health insurance.

Seasonal workers hired for only a few weeks during harvest could easily push many small farms or ranches over the 50-worker threshold, Stallman wrote.

“Farm Bureau urges the addition of language to ensure that small farm and rancher employers who hire temporary or seasonal workers are not required to reimburse the government for health care affordability credits,” Stallman wrote in the letter.

“Health care reform will have a huge impact on the cost, quality and availability of the health insurance that farmers purchase for themselves and their families and for the workers they employ,” he wrote.

The Farm Bureau is opposed to the so-called public option and instead supports voluntary regional health insurance cooperatives.



# Oregon asks for guidance on water projects

*‘Peak and ecological flows’ stipulation needs translation*

By MITCH LIES  
Capital Press

SALEM — The Oregon Water Resources Department is looking outside the department to help it interpret new environmental stipulations attached to the allocation of state funds for water storage projects.

Oregon Water Resources Department Director Phil Ward said at a legislative committee hearing Oct. 1 the state would like help in interpreting “peak and ecological flows.”

Under a law adopted earlier this year, the state may require applicants to protect “peak and ecological flows” before it provides money for water storage projects.

The language changes from “may” require to “shall” require beginning in 2012.

The department has hired a former Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife scientist to help it determine the state’s responsibilities in administering the programs, Ward said.

But, he said, the department also wants help from scientists outside the agency to ensure its analyses of “peak and ecological flows” are based on sound science.

Oregon lawmakers last session inserted the protections in two funding programs administered by the department.

John DeVoe, executive director of WaterWatch, said the protections ensure projects aren’t harmful to fish or the environment.

“It’s important to maintain a suite of flow types for river health,” DeVoe said.

“As we go into a phase where we may be looking at more (water) storage, we need to make sure that below these projects, we aren’t sterilizing rivers by re-

moving peak and ecological flows from the system,” he said.

The state has addressed peak flows in the past, said Anita Winkler, executive director of Oregon Water Resources Congress. But it has little to no experience addressing ecological flows. The water-user community is concerned over how the state will define “ecological flows,” she said.

It could be, Winkler said, that protecting ecological flows is so cumbersome water users will avoid tapping the state funds.

Protection for the flows is included in House Bill 3369.

Lawmakers in the multi-part bill put \$2.5 million in lottery-backed bonds into an Eastern Oregon aquifer recharge project.

The project could pump millions of dollars into Umatilla Basin agriculture by providing farmers with enough water to produce high-value crops. The basin’s farmers have been cut off from groundwater for portions of the irrigation season for several years due to declining aquifers.

Under the law, that project is exempt from the peak and ecological flow stipulations.

HB3369 also made available \$10 million in lottery-backed general obligation bonds in the state’s Water Development Loan Fund for implementation and construction of water storage projects. The loan fund increases to \$15 million in the next biennium. Projects funded through this program must address the new flow stipulations.

Lawmakers also created the Water Investment Grant Fund, but stopped short of putting money into the new fund.

It, too, is subject to the new flow stipulations.



Ward

# Canadian trucks skirt scales

*Spokane County to check cattle trucks on side roads*

By MATTHEW WEAVER  
Capital Press

Cindy Marshall has observed many Canadian cattle trucks bypassing the scales at the port of entry near her Otis Orchards, Wash., house.

“Sometimes you can sit there and count up to 16 of them within an hour’s period,” she said.

The trucks head down side roads to get onto Interstate 90, Marshall said, and she has even followed some of them.

“For some reason, they’re bypassing the first scale as they come into the state,” she said. “My first red flag that goes up is, Why? My biggest issue is the health of these cattle coming down from Canada into our slaughterhouses.”

That’s a concern shared by rancher Wade King and other cattle producers.

No one verifies whether the animals meet the state’s health requirements, the Cattle Producers of Washington president said. If they go through the ports of entry, it would provide one more check in the system.

“Right now, our state veterinarian doesn’t know until about two weeks later that the cattle trucks have entered our



Capital Press file photo

A rancher loads cattle into a truck to be transported. The Spokane County, Wash., Sheriff’s Office is emphasizing enforcement of trucking regulations and stopping trucks from bypassing ports of entry.

state,” he said.

There are also concerns that the trucks are entering Washington from Canada through Idaho without being checked at Washington’s borders.

“There’s no weight (checks) on these trucks coming in and we know these trucks are overloaded,” King said. “They’re driving around every scale they can to get to their destination, wherever that may be.”

The trucks can legally haul more weight in Canada than they can in Washington, King said.

King said some perpetrators have placed harassing phone calls to him and other CPOW members.

“They don’t want any interruption of these cheap, imported cattle,” he said.

There is also a concern that Washington’s producers are incorrectly being blamed by the public for the damage the trucks cause to the roads.

The Spokane County Sheriff’s Office will emphasize enforcement of trucking regulations and trucks bypassing the scales at ports of entry.

“We’re going to be looking for weight violations,” Sheriff Ozzie Knezovich said. “The only reason I can think anybody would want to bypass the port of entry and scales could be weight restrictions.”

Knezovich said he’s received many complaints from neighborhoods about trucks on county roads, particularly cattle trucks.

“Our county roads are not designed to handle that type of weight on a consistent basis,” he said. “Interstate 90 is. There’s no reason for cattle trucks to bypass I-90.”

# Workshops tackle emissions reports

By MATTHEW WEAVER  
Capital Press

The largest sources of greenhouse gas in Washington state, including food processors and vehicle fleets, have to report their emissions starting next year.

The Washington Department of Ecology is offering a series of workshops around the state about the new regulations and to help businesses comply with the new law.

The 2008 Washington State Legislature in House Bill 2815 required operators of vehicle

fleets producing more than 2,500 metric tons of greenhouse gases per year and large stationary sources of greenhouse gases producing more than 10,000 metric tons per year to report their emissions in 2010.

At that time, lawmakers directed the department to adopt a rule for implementing an emissions reporting system.

Because of the high gas production threshold, individual farmers probably won’t be impacted by the law, said Ecology Air Quality Program communications manager Seth Preston.

ston.

Agriculture’s role in climate change remains up in the air, he said, in part because of such variables as changing production levels each year.

“Those things are being discussed at various levels,” he said. “I just don’t think there’s any clear answers at this point.”

One of the reasons the department is offering the workshops is the rules are a work in progress, Preston said.

The workshops will help owners and operators measure and calculate their emissions, Preston said.

Public comments on the proposed rule can be submitted through Nov. 12. Written comments may be sent to Nancy Pritchett, Air Quality Program, Washington Department of Ecology, P.O. Box 47600, Olympia, WA 98504-7600 or to npri461@ecy.wa.gov.

Public hearings on the proposed rule are at 6 p.m. Tuesday, Nov. 3, in Spokane at the department’s Eastern Regional Office, 4601 N. Monroe St., and at 6 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 5, in Lacey, Wash., at the department’s headquarters, 300 Desmond Drive S.E.

Someone has to take the first step to make things happen.

When Ainsworth needed more baseball diamonds, Mark Johnson and his dad stepped up to the plate. With the help of volunteers and funding from local service organizations they're helping to build a four-diamond complex. Working on the diamonds in between raising crops and transporting livestock means the project could take a while. Even so, more than 100 kids from two counties will eventually have a place to play, thanks to Mark, Brent and the community volunteers.

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# Fagan, Hailey will face off in general election

*Rep. Don Cox announced he would not seek reelection.*

By MATTHEW WEAVER  
Capital Press



Hailey



Fagan

Two Republicans will face off in the Washington House District 9 race during the Nov. 3 general election.

Susan Fagan of Pullman, Wash., and Pat Hailey of Mesa, Wash., led the vote count in the Aug. 18 primary election, according to election officials.

District 9 includes Adams, Asotin, Garfield, Whitman and parts of Franklin and Spokane counties.

Fagan received 6,509 votes for 29.3 percent of the total vote, and Hailey received 5,722 votes for 25.7 percent.

Democrat Glen Stockwell received 5,401 votes, or 24.3 percent. Republicans Art Swanack and Darin Watkins received 2,747, or 12.3 percent, and 1,866, or 8.4 percent, respectively.

Under Washington law, the top two vote-getters in the primary run in the general election.

Rep. Don Cox of Colfax, Wash., announced in May he would not seek reelection. Cox was chosen in January to succeed Rep. Steve Hailey, who resigned from the Legislature in December and died after a yearlong battle with illness shortly after. Pat Hailey is Steve Hailey’s widow.

In May, Doug Ellis, assistant director of the Washington State Public Disclosure Commission, told the Capital Press the winning candidate must also stand for reelection next year, when Hailey’s unexpired term ends.

Fagan owned a farm for more than 15 years, raising wheat, barley, lentils, peas and canola. Her sons now do all the farming, she said. She also has experi-

ence working for several manufacturers and the U.S. Senate.

She wants to see efforts continue to fund opportunity to increase agricultural markets.

“Opening markets and making sure we serve the markets we currently have well is very important,” she said. “We are the most trade-dependent state in the country, and a lot of that is based on our agricultural exports.”

Fagan also pointed to the regular business issues that affect farmers, such as business and occupation taxes on agriculture and the reinstatement of Washington’s death tax.

Hailey has owned a fourth-generation wheat farm and cattle ranch outside Pasco, Wash., for 39 years. She has also served as an elected member of the local school board, and said education is another priority.

She pointed to a water policy that requires farmers to use their water or risk losing their water rights.

“That law does not incentivize water conservation,” she said. “It causes you to use water when perhaps you didn’t need to use water. In this day and time, water conservation is important.”

Continually adding rules and regulations for Washington farmers doesn’t give them advantages in the world market, Hailey said.

“We need to keep agriculture on the center of the plain in this state, because it is a \$22 billion industry,” she said. “We need to keep it active and growing. That’s a story that needs to be told in Olympia, and I can do that.”







# Give Klamath process time to work

## Editorial

It's another typical water year in the Klamath Basin, which straddles Oregon and California. Water is scarce. Despite sporadic fits of fall rain, migrating salmon in one upstream tributary of the mighty stream remain "kegged up" in deep water pools, waiting for enough runoff to make their run to spawning grounds in the shadow of Mount Shasta.

What makes this year different is the draft Klamath Settlement Agreement of Sept. 30, written into final form four months after major governmental parties and PacifiCorp, operator of controversial dams on the upper Klamath, promised the document would be ready.

Not so different is that some significant players in the often stormy eight-year debate continued condemning the deal. Or that major news media, including the national-opinion-making New York Times, treat the draft agreement as a done-dam-removal deal.

It isn't. A New York Times editorial Oct. 3 declared "four dams on the Klamath River will be removed to restore imperiled salmon runs" and called that a victory for fish, farmers, Indian tribes and the Endangered Species Act. This is hardly a victory when three years of

study, then seven years of engineering preparations, are envisioned before dam removal might take place in 2020.

But it is time to celebrate two significant parts of the draft agreement.

First, the Obama administration is now advocating a deal launched by the Bush administration with prodding from the

governors of California and Oregon.

Second, PacifiCorp, which will have to come up with alternate power generation facilities that will certainly be much more expensive than a system which came online in 1918, remains a supporter of the deal even though it stayed away from the separate Klamath Basin

Restoration agreement. By reference, that restoration pact becomes part of the most recent deal.

The basin and the nation have come a long way since 2001, when U.S. marshals were called out to guard the headgates of the Klamath Reclamation Project three months into the drought-triggered cutoff of irrigation wa-

ter deliveries to an estimated 1,100 farms. There's a long way to go before the vision of a \$1 billion restoration agreement has a chance of becoming reality.

In the next 2 1/2 years, the U.S. Department of Interior — whose secretary last week promised to sign the agreement — becomes leader in one of

### Online poll

Do you believe the Klamath dams really will be taken out?

To vote in this week's online poll, go to [www.capitalpress.com](http://www.capitalpress.com).

the most complex environmental studies ever. The department will have to judge, using the National Environmental Policy Act standards informed by Endangered Species Act protections for two of the basin's fish, whether taking out those dams is the rational thing to do.

If it is, and Congress agrees with enabling legislation, not only will dam removal go forward, but the pending renewal of PacifiCorp's license to operate those dams will be resolved. Annual licenses have been issued since 2006, when the 50-year Klamath permit expired.

That study by Interior is going to produce reams of data, probably providing both advocates of dam removal and those having reservations about it with reasons to review their positions. We urge not only the major parties — the two states, federal government and power company — but all of the dozens of other stakeholders, to step back and let the review happen.

Sign on for the process. Give it time to work.



Rik Dalvit/For the Capital Press

# Cattle case deserves explanation

## Editorial

When 402 cattle cross the Canada border destined for a feedlot in Washington state and instead show up on a ranch 200 miles away, someone has a lot of explaining to do.

In fact, a lot of people have explaining to do — the truckers, cattle owner, rancher, processor, USDA and the Washington State Department of Agriculture.

That's the crux of the investigation the state Department of Agriculture and the USDA have undertaken during the past three months.

The type of tests and paperwork required for a direct trip to the feedlot are different from those required for cattle going to pasture, so authorities at the state and federal level want to know exactly what happened and how it happened.

But this investigation is not solely about paperwork. The threat of disease is a top-of-mind issue for cattle producers in Washington state, where the first case of bovine spongiform encephalopathy in the U.S. showed up in 2003 — in a dairy cow imported from Canada.

Since then, authorities have been on red alert in an attempt to make sure that all precautionary measures are followed and that the mad cow nightmare is not repeated.

That's what makes this case



Rik Dalvit/For the Capital Press

so perplexing. That seven truckloads of cattle can be misdirected raises questions about how well those measures are followed.

Dan Newhouse, director of the Washington State Department of Agriculture, said recently that he and his department are intent on getting to the bottom of this incident and working with other state departments, including the attorney general, to make sure it doesn't happen again.

"I understand that not only my, but the department's, credibility is on the line with this issue," he said. "We understand the seriousness of it."

To its credit, Agri Beef Co., the large Boise, Idaho-based

beef processor, came forward with an explanation of what happened and what was supposed to happen.

Agri Beef said last month that documentation related to the 198 spayed heifers and 204 steers incorrectly stated the destination to be the Agri Beef-owned El Oro feedlot in Moses Lake, Wash. Instead, the cattle went to a ranch near Northport, Wash., just over the border with Canada.

State regulations don't require the testing of cattle headed directly for a feedlot.

The processor has been forthcoming in accepting responsibility for its part of the problem.

"Clearly, we made a mis-

take," Agri Beef Executive Vice President Rick Stott told the Capital Press last month. "We're willing to make good on anything that would happen negatively for this reason. We're very willing and open to step up and take responsibility and make sure there's no impact to the cattlemen in and around that area."

What remains to be seen is whether the federal and state authorities take responsibility for whatever part they played and what they plan to do about it.

As authorities sort out this case, cattle producers look forward to a complete and thorough explanation — and assurance that it won't happen again.

# Don't delay details on climate costs

## Editorial

Democratic Sens. Barbara Boxer and John Kerry have opened debate in the Senate on climate change by introducing a bill that would reduce carbon emissions in the U.S. by 20 percent by 2020.

It is a companion piece to a measure that narrowly passed the House earlier this year after it was made barely palatable to farm interests through the bipartisan work of that body's Agriculture Committee.

In a nutshell, both bills seek to reduce the amount of carbon emitted by 83 percent by 2050. While the House bill set a 17 percent reduction by 2020, the Senate bill pushes a 20 percent goal by that date.

Both bills would allow high-emission industries, coal-fired power plants for instance, to buy offsets provided by projects or industries that capture and store carbon — a landown-

er who plants trees on a woodlot, for example.

But where the House bill guarantees agriculture offsets for qualifying production techniques, Boxer-Kerry included no such language. And where the House bill gave the USDA the lead role in deciding how those ag offsets would be determined, the Senate bill gives sole authority to the president to decide which agency would be in charge.

There are other good reasons to be skeptical of the Senate's bill, not the least of which is its authors' frequent tendency to postpone addressing more controversial details to a later date. While that's a popular legislative tactic that's often used to move stalled legislation forward, the details of how the entire economy will be reordered to meet the bill's goals are pretty important.

Certainly the Boxer-Kerry bill isn't the final word on climate change from the Senate,

Placing restrictions on carbon emissions will make energy, and products that are energy intensive, more expensive. Consumers in general, and farmers in particular, are going to pay a lot more money to conduct daily business.

and its passage is far from certain. There are many in the wings with suggestions to change it. Even so, it has a ways to go before it could be said to be only as bad as the House bill.

As a side note, a few months back Sens. Mike Johanns, R-Neb., Saxby Chambliss, R-Ga., and other Republican ag committee members asked the USDA to provide a detailed crop-by-crop, region-by-region analysis of how growers would be impacted by the increased cost of inputs caused by the House bill, and the potential benefits farmers would receive by selling the offsets it provides.

The department had prepared a cursory 13-page document that was short on specifics, but promised more research as the process wore on. Those details would be of enormous value now, but have yet to surface.

Placing restrictions on carbon emissions will make energy, and products that are energy intensive, more expensive. Consumers in general, and farmers in particular, are going to pay a lot more money to conduct daily business.

Putting a cost on the bill is not one of those details that should be postponed until later.

# Review of water decisions needed

U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., is seeking a high-level scientific review of recent endangered-species decisions that are a primary cause for the economic devastation that has been leveled on rural communities in the San Joaquin Valley, one of the world's most productive farmland areas.

And she is already getting hammered for daring to suggest such an idea.

Some environmental groups claim that recent biological opinions for endangered fish in Bay-Delta completed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service were "exhaustively peer-reviewed by other scientific agencies."

Many of those impacted by these decisions on the ground disagree. Our organization — the Family Farm Alliance — filed suit in July to force the withdrawal of the federal government's latest order cutting back California's water supplies on behalf of the Delta smelt. It is not a step we took lightly. We want the court to order USFWS to revise its biological opinion to comply with the standards for the use of data that the Endangered Species Act and the Information Quality Act have set to protect the public and the environment from arbitrary, biased and unscientific abuses of federal authority.

USFWS failed to comply with the most fundamental requirements of IQA and ESA regarding the quality, objectivity, utility and integrity of scientific decision-making by federal agencies.

The opinion on smelt was based upon assumptions, not data. The methods relied upon were not transparent, the analysis was not reproducible, and the peer review employed was not competent and credible due to its lack of independence and expertise.

Federal law requires USFWS to base a biological opinion of this kind on the best available scientific and commercial data — not on supposition, speculation or assumptions about the outcome that the regulators want to impose.

The existing biological opinion does not meet that standard. Notably, instead of conducting the independent peer review that the law requires, USFWS brought in the authors of the papers on which the agency's order was based. In effect, they were being asked to review the adequacy of their own work.

Guest comment  
Dan Keppen



This level of review would not qualify under the standards set by ESA or the IQA. Further, although ESA requires USFWS to use the best available scientific and commercial data, the agency instead based its findings in part on an analysis which had not been published or peer reviewed and, supposedly, on data which USFWS refused even to disclose.

Moreover, it turns out the agency did not actually possess some of the data that it claimed it used to order the cutbacks in water supplies.

I suspect that some within USFWS, and their allies in the environmental community, know that an independent peer review conducted in an open and rigorous manner would quickly pick up on these deficiencies.

The resulting publicity, no doubt, would tarnish their credibility and undermine their arguments that state and federal pumps are the primary stressor to Delta smelt.

So, environmental activists are now busy trying to find ways to trash Feinstein's request by suggesting that wealthy agricultural interests will somehow find a way to corrupt the highest body of science in the land.

For the family farmers, ranchers and farm workers who are suffering the consequences of the flawed 2008 Delta smelt decision, the efforts to minimize the significance of an independent peer review conducted by the National Academy of Sciences are absurd.

Desperate communities in the Central Valley were looked in the eye this year and told, "Sorry, we know it may hurt, but 'the science' is compelling and requires you to go without water."

This was wrong, literally, and as a matter of policy. For whatever reason, the agencies have become too close to, and too much a part of, the side-taking that has come to dominate issues surrounding the bay and Delta.

For this reason alone, outside review is needed. Feinstein deserves kudos for advocating for such an approach.

Dan Keppen is executive director of the Family Farm Alliance, a grass-roots group of farmers and ranchers.







# Cal Poly alumni voice concerns

*Some alumni criticize university's loss of hands-on experience*

By **CECILIA PARSONS**  
Capital Press

The controversy over activist Michael Pollan's appearance on campus has placed a spotlight on recent changes at Cal Poly-San Luis Obispo's animal science department. One of the most controversial was a decision to drop the department's highly regarded livestock judging team. According to Andy Thulin, head of the animal science department, the school was not willing to spend \$45,000 annually to send a team on the road to compete. However, former team members and alumni dispute it was a funding issue because they said private funds were offered.

One of the most outspoken observers of the animal science department is former instructor Bill Jacobs, who coached the Cal Poly livestock judging team when it gained national prominence. Jacobs, who now resides in Oklahoma, blames

## Organic and animal science experts to join Pollan

*POLLAN from Page 1*

culture industry leaders.

Joining Pollan on the panel will be meat science authority Gary Smith from Colorado State University and Tonya Antle, vice president of organic sales for Earthbound Farm Organic. Panelists will speak about current challenges and issues in food production, including perspectives on sustainability.

The change in the event format came a week after Harris Ranch Beef Co. Chairman David Wood sent a letter to Cal Poly President Warren Baker. Wood,

a Cal Poly alumnus, said the event was causing him to rethink his financial support of the university, including a \$500,000 pledge toward a new meat processing facility.

In a letter to Dave Wehner, dean of the school of agriculture, Wood said he has received hundreds of phone calls and e-mails from concerned alumni from across the U.S., including some who serve on various advisory councils for the ag department. Wood said none were in support of Pollan's appearance.

Mike Smith, also with Har-

ris Beef, was much more direct in a phone interview on Oct. 5. He charged that the school "drug its heels" in changing the format to a more balanced presentation.

Pollan declined to comment.

In his writings, Pollan has characterized Harris Ranch and its cattle feed program as the "epitome of unsustainability." Smith expressed outrage that the school would offer a speaker who denigrated a food production system that feeds people worldwide.

Another Cal Poly alumnus, Dave Spaulding, confirmed

there has been much discussion among alumni over Pollan's invitation to speak. Spaulding, who is with Western Milling and O.H. Kruse Grain and Milling, said this issue has been the tipping point for many alumni and ag department supporters who are unhappy with changes in the university's agriculture department.

Wehner disputed the notion that Pollan's appearance is an endorsement of his views by the university. In a phone interview, he also said the ag department heads urged there be a panel discussion for a more bal-

anced presentation.

Pollan, he said, stipulated that he either be a single speaker or a member of a panel. He did not have a say in who the other panelists would be, Wehner said.

Pollan's invitation to speak came from SARC, Wehner said. It is paying him \$20,000 total for both speaking engagements. The school's agriculture department kicked in \$5,000 toward the speaking fee, and Wehner stressed that the money came from his discretionary funds, not from any department budget.

## Objections intensified in 1990s

*LAND from Page 1*

didn't escalate until the state started implementing the law.

"When the goals were first adopted (in 1975) and the rubber started to meet the road, that is when people started to object," he said.

"Even then," he said, "(objections) weren't as strenuous as they were in the early 1990s.

"You could still go out and partition the back 40, and create two or three lots with home sites. That didn't change until the early '90s when (House Bill) 3661 created the 80-acre minimum parcel size and when the \$80,000 rule was adopted."

The \$80,000 rule requires landowners in exclusive farm use zones to generate at least \$80,000 in annual farm income before they can build a house on their land.

Hunnicuttt believes those rules, coupled with the fact lawmakers failed to compensate landowners for losses in property value, led to the success of first Measure 7 in 2000, and subsequently Measure 37 in 2004.

The measures, which drew overwhelming support from Oregon voters, eased land-use restrictions. Measure 7 was thrown out by the courts on a technical issue. Measure 37 was subsequently scaled back by Measure 49, which today is part of Oregon land-use law.

Under Measure 49, eligible property owners can be compensated for the loss of property value caused by a land-use



Mark Rozin/Capital Press

Bill Moshofsky and Dave Hunnicutt of Oregonians In Action crafted two of the most significant ballot measures in Oregon land-use history. Measure 7, which voters approved in 2000, and Measure 37, approved in 2004, eased land-use restrictions.

regulation. The measure also allows governments to waive a regulation — an option cash-strapped governments have almost exclusively chosen.

Measure 49 limits a property owner's development options on farm or forest land to a maximum of three houses.

Moshofsky and Hunnicutt believe plenty more needs to be done to provide Oregon property owners with what Moshofsky calls basic civil rights.

"We've come a long ways," Hunnicutt said. "But we still need to get the state to adopt new definitions of agricultural land and forest land, and recognize that you can't just go out and call everything that's empty in Oregon, that's undeveloped, farm or forest land. "They call this a planning

system, but in rural Oregon, it's not planning at all. It's regulating, but it's not planning," he said.

Eric Stachon, communications director for the land-use planning advocacy group 1000 Friends of Oregon, said he believes the state needs to scale back exceptions that have peppered farm zones in recent years.

Today, golf courses, model aircraft facilities and living-history museums are among about 50 exceptions allowed in farm zones.

"We would like to see that whittled away," he said. "It's a death by a thousand cuts scenario."

Macpherson, who today lives in an assisted-care facility in Corvallis, is thankful SB100 still is in play.

"I'm delighted that it has

lasted. I thought it would be voted out, but I recognized when developing it that it had to be within the bounds of what people would accept," he said.

"I think it is terribly important to keep farmland available for people who are going to be here from here on out," he said. "And I think Oregon has done a better job than other states to preserve farmland."

Macpherson still owns the farm his father started working in the early 1900s. A nephew works it today, growing grass seed, wheat and rotation crops on acreage the dairy once occupied.

"The remarkable thing is our land-use laws didn't come from a liberal group or a conservationist organization," Macpherson said. "It came from Oregon farmers."

## Buyout worries beef producers

*Dairy herd retirement coincides with beef cow culling season*

By **CAROL RYAN DUMAS**  
Capital Press

A third dairy buyout this year is weighing on the minds of beef producers who say the timing of Cooperatives Working Together's latest effort hits at their peak marketing season.

Cow-calf pairs come in off the range, calves are weaned and culls are sent to market in the fall.

"That's always the case," said Greg Doud, chief economist with National Cattlemen's Beef Association.

In addition, there's not a high demand for ground beef in the winter months and that's where the cull cows go, he said.

Dairy cows adding to slaughter will likely impact beef prices, he said. Markets during the previous two herd retirements this year bear that out.

Beef producers lost \$4 to \$5 a hundredweight during a three-week period in June when CWT sent cows to slaughter and \$3 a cwt again in the three-week period in August when CWT sent more cows to slaughter.

"We're concerned because June isn't a high point for cull cows; they're out grazing on pasture. In August, it's kind of the same thing," Doud said. "October and November is a much more significant time period. It'll have much more impact for ranchers marketing those cull cows."

Other factors are already hit-

ting beef producers hard. The economic downturn, decreased demand for beef and large pork supplies are already straining markets.

"When dairymen make these kinds of decisions, it has implications for our industry," he said.

Earlier this month cull cow prices are down more than 10 percent from a year ago, according to NCBA. CWT culling could add to the price decline.

"If this round of the CWT were to involve a cull of 50,000 cows in a 30-day period, it could result in a \$3.00/cwt negative impact on cull cow prices," NCBA reported. "Cull cow prices could potentially struggle into 2010, depending upon the exact timing of this cull."

Dick Coon, president of the Washington Cattlemen's Association and a Benge, Wash.-based producer, on Monday, Oct. 5, sent a strongly worded letter to Jerry Kozak, president and CEO of National Milk Producers Federation.

"It is one thing to over-expand and be willing to pay the price to correct the problem, but it is unwise to unsettle and pressure an agricultural partner in the process," he stated in the letter.

Coon said in a phone interview the action by CWT makes cattle producers uncomfortable. "I'm unhappy they're doing it now, I've got a lot of cows and calves to market," he said.

CWT has already removed 226,000 head in the past year and the industry has absorbed that because beef cull has been low, he said. Culling more dairy cows now is bad timing.

## CWT: Budget limited

*HERD from Page 1*

would have to take aggressive action and asked producers to sign a two-year agreement to ensure it could take out a line of credit if needed.

With budgetary limitations, CWT will have to see what bids come in and take out what cows it can, he said.

"We will use the money as frugally as we possibly can," he said.

The maximum bid CWT will consider is \$5.25 per hundredweight of milk, which was the same bid ceiling as the previous round. There is no guarantee that every producer submitting a bid up to the maximum \$5.25 bid level will be accepted. Producers must be members of CWT. Producers whose bids were selected in previous herd retirements will not be eligible to bid again.

This round will again include a bred heifer option. All bids submitted must be postmarked no later than Thursday, Oct. 15. Tillison said the last three

### Online

Bid forms for herd retirement and bred heifer option, a bid calculator, as well as the answers to frequently asked questions are available on the CWT website.

CWT website:  
www.cwt.coop

herd retirement efforts took 400 million pounds, or 2 percent, of milk a month out of the equation, but he knew there'd need to be another herd retirement this year.

"In 2009, dairy farmers got caught in the perfect storm; markets just went away," he said. "We had to reduce the herd because markets vanished."

Dairymen support the reduction program through a 10 cent per hundredweight assessment on their milk. Thirty-eight co-ops and about 400 individual producers participate. In all, CWT members represent about 68 percent of U.S. milk production.

## State agriculture directors back dairy price support efforts

The directors of the Oregon and Washington departments of agriculture are throwing their support behind a proposed national price support program for dairies.

Oregon's Katy Coba and Washington's Dan Newhouse on Oct. 7 urged USDA Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack and the Northwest congressional delegation to back a program boosting USDA purchases of cheese and other dairy

products.

The proposal from the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture hopes to support a market milk price of \$16 per hundredweight.

Under the plan that state agriculture directors developed at a national gathering last month in Alabama, the USDA would buy 75 million pounds of cheese and other dairy products over a 120-day period to maintain the \$16 target price.

Dairy products under the plan would be distributed to the national school lunch program, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program and community food banks. These and other food assistance programs have seen a dramatic increase in demand during the economic recession, said Jason Kelly, communications director for the Washington State Department of Agriculture.

"This proposal is good for

Oregon and Washington dairies, but it also will bring much-needed help to families struggling to make ends meet," Coba said.

Kelly said dozens of Washington dairies have gone out of business the past two years, including 39 dairies in the first nine months of 2009.

"We're below 500 dairy farms for the first time in decades," Kelly said.

— Mitch Lies







Livestock

Critics fear disease lab’s move

Supporters say facility presents no risk to agriculture

By TIM HEARDEN  
Capital Press

Critics say an accident at a planned Kansas facility that will research pathogens in animals could devastate the livestock industry nationwide, including in the West.

Some farm groups — but not all — are have fears about the construction of the National Bio and Agro-Defense Facility at Kansas State University, which would study foot-and-mouth disease and other ailments.



Research

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security facility would replace an aging research center on Plum Island, N.Y., an island off the northern tip of Long Island.

But two national cattlemen’s organizations say moving the study of dangerous pathogens to the mainland would be unwise because a tornado or other mishap could allow diseases to escape into the surrounding animal population.

“The most severe ramifications would be the loss of the export market for beef and hogs,” said Bill Bullard, chief executive officer of the Ranchers-Cattlemen Action Legal Fund,

United Stockgrowers of America.

An outbreak could also affect trucking of cattle within the United States, which could cause problems for Western cattle going to feedlots in the Midwest, said Jess Peterson, the U.S. Cattlemen’s Association’s executive vice president.

“This has been a national issue,” Peterson said. “Whenever I travel the nation, I talk to people who are concerned about it.”

The groups’ concerns aren’t shared by the National Cattlemen’s Beef Association or the American Farm Bureau Federation, both of which support the new facility.

Elizabeth Parker, the NCBA’s chief veterinarian, compares the new facility to human-disease labs such as those at the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in Atlanta, Ga., which have not had any mishaps.

“Of course you need to assure that every precaution is taken,” Parker said. “There needs to be multiple layers of biosecurity ... Technologies with buildings of this type have improved dramatically over the last 50 years.”

But the critics have seized on a U.S. General Accounting Office report that asserts an animal-disease research facility could pose more risk than human-based disease research. The report suggests humans could come in contact with infected animals and carry diseases off site.



The National Bio and Agro Defense Facility is slated to be built on a plot near Kansas State University’s Biosecurity Research Institute and College of Veterinary Medicine.

Further, the GAO asserts Homeland Security “did not incorporate worst-case outbreak scenarios,” including the effectiveness of a containment zone “to control the effects of a national export ban on the domestic livestock industry.”

A conference committee this week approved funding for facility-related research at Kansas State. The government recently hired a construction manager for the research lab, which will aim to protect the food supply and agriculture economy from terrorism as well as deadly disease outbreaks.

The Manhattan, Kan., site was chosen by a panel of scientists and experts from Homeland Security and the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The more than three-year search

considered 29 potential sites, including 18 finalists in 11 states.

Groundbreaking is set to take place next year, and the facility could be operating by 2015.

In terms of biosecurity, Tom Thornton, president and chief executive officer of the Kansas Bioscience Authority, likens the new lab to a bank vault in a submarine at the bottom of the ocean. He said such mainland-based facilities in Canada and elsewhere have proven to be safe.

“In some respects there’s been a demonizing of biocontainment research,” Thornton said. “The goal here is to protect agriculture. The threat is not a modern research facility. The threat is specifically one posed by accidental release or terrorist threat. I think those are

the key issues that drive the importance of this lab.”

R-CALF’s Bullard acknowledges there are benefits to housing a research facility at a major university, such as the availability of additional grant dollars.

“The problem we see is the safety factor,” he said. “It is inherently risky to conduct this research on the mainland.

“We’ve heard the argument that research could be conducted better on the mainland because of the likelihood that researchers would be more willing to live on the mainland,” he said. “We’ve seen no studies and no substantiation that we couldn’t have a world-class research facility on Plum Island following upgrades to that facility.”

Team touts current system

Campaign points out advantages of conventional beef

By TIM HEARDEN  
Capital Press

Cattle producers who use growth hormones, feed additives and other so-called conventional means of raising and finishing their animals are pushing back against opponents.

A group calling itself the Growth Enhancement Technology Information Team, or GET IT, is starting a marketing program that asserts conventionally-raised beef is cheaper and doesn’t harm the environment.

The campaign encourages the industry to “share the facts” about modern beef production with family, friends and neighbors, the Iowa-based group stated in a news release.

“It’s an educational campaign for producers and other stakeholders in the industry,” said Carrie Jorgensen, an account executive for the McCormick Co., which is handling marketing for GET IT.

“We’re kind of constantly getting attacked by the folks who question how we raise cattle and other food sources,” she said. “This campaign is to help arm producers and other stakeholders with messages of how to convey that beef production is not only good for the environment, but to refute the myths about how organically raised beef is better for the environment.”

The group, which includes executives from U.S. animal health companies, was formed to combat negative images of the livestock industry such as one painted in an article in Time magazine in August.

The article, titled “Getting Real About the High Price of Cheap Food,” opines that cheap meat and grain produced by the U.S. agricultural industry imposes “a high cost to the environment, animals and humans.” Detrimental impacts include farmland erosion and the “scary” rise of antibiotic-resistant bacteria among farm animals, according to the article.

GET IT cited a Center for Global Food Issues study that finds conventional grain-based beef production systems produce 40 percent less greenhouse gas emissions than grass-only finishing programs, and that growth-encouraging technologies account for 25 percent of this reduction.

Further, researchers at Iowa State University found that conventional feedyard-production technologies make for the most efficient use of farmland just as the world population is set to reach 9 billion by the middle of the 21st century, according to GET IT.

The campaign will include print and electronic advertising in producer publications, newsletters and a website, Jorgensen said.

“I guess the great thing about beef production right now is everybody has a choice,” she said. “There’s no entity dictating that it must be conventional or naturally raised. The purpose of the marketing campaign is to let people know that conventional beef production is good for the environment and good for consumers in terms of the price they pay at the meat case.”

Cattle producers take their thoughts to the Web

Young Producers’ Council wants to energize the emerging generation

By TIM HEARDEN  
Capital Press

The emerging generation of cattle producers is bringing the beef industry into the digital age.

The National Cattlemen’s Beef Association’s Young Producers’ Council has launched a blog and Facebook page to get people from college to their mid-30s more involved in industry issues.

Cari Rincker, 29 and a Shelbyville, Ill., cattle producer and

agriculture attorney who leads the council’s public relations committee, said there are already more than 1,000 people linked to the Facebook page and a dozen contributors have signed up to blog.

“NCBA has more than 30,000 members and the average NCBA member is about 60 years old,” Rincker said. “The goal of YPC is ultimately to get more young people involved with NCBA so they can help shape NCBA policies.

“Young people are certainly a big part of the beef industry, yet they seem to not have a lot of a voice right now,” she said. “We’re quickly becoming a social media world. The blogosphere is a great way for young beef producers to get their sto-

Online

To read the new Cattle Call blog, visit <http://ypcblog.beefusa.org>. For more information about the NCBA's Young Producers' Council, visit [www.beefusa.org/ypc](http://www.beefusa.org/ypc).

ries out to the public.”

The more than 110-year-old NCBA, which is funded by member contributions and check-off dollars, promotes beef and advocates for the industry. Its Young Producers’ Council has about 150 members, although more young people are involved in their state organizations.

“A lot of state affiliations are jumping on this YPC perspec-

tive to try to get more young people involved,” Rincker said. “You’re seeing state affiliations develop their own young producers’ councils.”

The new NCBA blog, titled Cattle Call, was launched on Sept. 22 and has featured producers’ introductions of how they got into the industry and why they wanted to participate in the blog. Future posts could range from observations about the bloggers’ daily lives to specific policy concerns, said Rincker, who is the blog’s editor.

“The blog is going to touch upon issues that are relevant to young producers,” she said.

Among the writers is Blair Hunewill, a sixth-generation rancher from California who authored the blog’s first post.

Wardens wipe out wolf pack

Wolves shot after attacks on sheep

BUTTE, Mont., (AP) — Federal trappers say they have eliminated the remaining members of a wolf pack that roamed the Centennial Valley and was blamed for attacking sheep and cattle in Montana and Idaho.

Carolyn Sime, wolf program coordinator for the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, said trappers shot and killed the last four wolves

of the Sage Creek pack last week.

Biologists said the pack was comprised of eight adults.

This summer it preyed on sheep at the Idaho Agriculture Experiment Station near the Montana border. At the time, Idaho officials decided to kill some of the wolves.

Sime said Montana officials decided to act when the pack crossed back into Montana and attacked sheep again.

Sime says trappers shot the remaining animals from the air.

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Online

For the GET IT team’s website outlining the benefits of conventional beef production, visit <http://beeftechnologies.com/eco>. For the Time magazine article about the commercial livestock industry, visit [www.time.com/time/goinggreen](http://www.time.com/time/goinggreen).



# Livestock

Greener Pastures

Doug Warnock



Select animals best suited to conditions

Discussions continue to abound on how to farm and ranch in a sustainable manner. So, sustainability is continually being defined.

That is good, because sustainable management, i.e. sustainable practices, may differ from one place to another, due to the differences that exist in climate, elevation, water supply, vegetation, type and adaptation of livestock, along with many other factors.

David Granastein, WSU sustainable agriculture specialist, said sustainability is not a line or a threshold, but a goal to which we subscribe. In other words, it may not be a destination, but the journey that is important. If we continually work to achieve a more sustainable enterprise, then we are moving in the right direction. The goal may change somewhat as we learn more and move toward it, but the important thing is that we are moving in the right direction.

It seems most of us agree that sustainability is defined to include economic viability, environmental soundness and social acceptability. All three of these are necessary components, and without any one of the three, there cannot be sustainability.

### Working with nature

We are able to improve our journey toward sustainability when we learn more about nature and the way it operates. The natural processes are there for us to understand, and the better we work with them, the better we will be at achieving sustainability.

For example, nature shows us that young ungulates are born in the spring when most of the snow and cold temperatures are gone and when the grass is greening up. That is when the dam is best able to get both the quality and quantity of forage that is needed to provide enough milk to feed her young.

When we expend a lot of resources to support dams that give birth in the dead of winter, we are reducing profit and working against nature. If, however, there is an economic advantage to have the dams give birth during the colder part of the year, the additional cost of that practice may be rewarded enough to offset the greater cost. As the definition indicates, there must be a level of profitability in the application of each practice and for the overall enterprise.

Kit Pharo, well-known cattle breeder in Cheyenne Wells, Colo., promotes the use of cattle that are best suited to the environment of the specific ranch location. Pharo says that we can't afford to artificially change the environment to fit the cows, we must find the cows that fit the environment. Pharo goes on to explain that the best suited cows are those that can produce and reproduce with minimum inputs. That may mean culling out some animals that "look good," but who may need more help doing the job of producing a good marketable calf every year. As Pharo says, cattle must be environmentally adapted in order to efficiently convert the available forage into beef with a minimum of inputs.

Those who manage grazing animals are "grass or forage farmers." They use the grazing animals to harvest the plants that result from the conversion of solar energy into plant tissue. The better the job that is done of converting solar energy into plants and in managing the grazing animals to keep the plants healthy and growing, the more sustainable is the operation.

Doug Warnock, retired after 35 years as an extension agent with Washington State University, consults and writes on ranch and farm management.

# Abandoned meat raises a stink

South Dakota town faces down 44 tons of rotting bison meat

By CARSON WALKER  
Associated Press

BRIDGEWATER, S.D. — Behind the freezer doors at a meat plant mysteriously abandoned by its owner, the 44 tons of bison meat managed to hold its own for months, masked by the brutal chill of two South Dakota winters.

Once the power was cut and spring thaw arrived, nature took over. And enough rotting meat to fill a high school gym did exactly what you'd expect: It stank.

It stank at the bank. It smelled at the law office. It reeked at the cafe. Even the jewelry store wasn't immune. Everyone in this tiny town could smell it, everywhere they went. A putrid odor so downright nasty the cleaners sent to mop up the goeey mess of liquefied meat — topped by a blanket of swarming white maggots and buzzed by a legion of flies — gave up after two days.

"You've also got the city ofices, the grocery store and the

post office. And then you spread out to the local residences," said Mayor Marty Barattini, pointing to each place. "This is a small town. We have just over 600 people, so that stench was enough to overwhelm the entire town. Not just this street."

Fed up with the smell, a brave crew of 18 city and county workers took matters into their own hands this summer and stormed the plant to haul away the putrid meat and take back their town. What came next was the biggest indignity: Three months after the cleanup, the owner still hasn't paid the \$11,151 cleanup bill, and owes about \$14,085 in unpaid property taxes on top of it.

"We tried to work with that guy," Barattini said.

The saga of the smell began in January 2008, when owner Ilan Parente closed Bridgewater Quality Meats and moved the business to Dawson, Minn., as Noah's Ark Processors LLC. He left the boxed kosher bison meat behind, apparently to be sold to a pet food company. It stayed frozen until the electricity was cut off in December for lack of payment.

When the town about 40

"I don't think anybody should ever do something like that. That was bad."

Todd Letcher, firefighter

miles away from Sioux Falls began to warm in the spring, the smell began to creep out. Some said the scent was like road kill. The mayor said he spent two tours of duty in Vietnam and could not recall smelling anything as bad.

"This is worse than rotten bodies," Barattini said.

The city sent a notice to Parente to remove the caustic cause, and he dispatched two workers who toiled without protective masks, clothing, equipment or access to water or electricity. Defeated by the mess, they quit after two days.

So city and county officials got permission from the South Dakota Animal Industry Board to go inside and finish. It then became clear that the source of the smell was the meat: 88,420 pounds, according to the scale

at the Sioux Falls landfill, where the mess was hauled in five dump trucks and three extra-large trash bins.

The crews and a skid loader spent two days removing the meat, which had swollen so much that the shrink-wrapped bags had burst, which caused the stacked boxes to topple. Most crew members wore oxygen masks and hazardous materials suits because of the strong ammonia odor. Crews cleaned the building with fire hoses and doused it with bleach.

City employee and volunteer firefighter Todd Letcher wore his fire gear. "I don't think anybody should ever do something like that," he said of the job. "That was bad."

Parente's phone number is disconnected, and the attorney representing him, Mike Unke, declined to comment. A woman who answered the phone at the Minnesota business said Parente is no longer affiliated with it. Requests for someone to comment went unanswered. Parente has said before that he checked the meat in May and found it iced over due to a broken water pipe. He's claimed the meat might have stunk, but

says he never put anyone in danger.

"I feel bad for the people of Bridgewater who had to live with the smell. But that's really where the extent of my feeling bad goes. It wasn't ever a health hazard to anyone," he told The Daily Republic of Mitchell in July.

The county spent about \$5,000 on dump trucks and men to drive them, the city submitted a bill of \$3,918 to Parente for trucking costs, landfill fees, attorney fees, overtime and pest control, and the fire department's cost came in at \$2,233 for wages, air tanks, two fire trucks and clothing replacement.

Parente also owes \$8,628 in back property taxes and interest on the business and \$5,457 on a rural house he owns, according to McCoy County records. Bridgewater City Attorney Mike Fink said the city is in the process of discussing a settlement to recoup the cleanup costs. Months after the massive cleanup, though, the city hasn't seen a dime.

A longer version of this story is online at [www.capitalpress.com](http://www.capitalpress.com).

# Poultry industry argues state could have done more

Oklahoma presses lawsuit over watershed pollution

TULSA, Okla. (AP) — The Arkansas poultry industry tried on Monday, Oct. 5, to show that Oklahoma had the power to fix the pollution problem in the Illinois River watershed without hauling poultry processors into federal court, but failed to do so.

The 11 companies Oklahoma is suing used the cross-examination of Ed Fite, the

director of Oklahoma's Scenic Rivers Commission, to illustrate what the state could have done before the 2005 lawsuit was filed. Oklahoma's lawsuit claims runoff from fields spread with tons of chicken litter has polluted the river valley on the Oklahoma-Arkansas border.

Last week, Fite testified he was in talks with the industry for more than a decade about ways to move chicken waste out of the watershed, but the industry failed to change its practices.

Monday, poultry industry attorney Tom Green asked Fite why Oklahoma has not banned farmers from letting their cattle defecate in the valley's rivers and streams, restricted cattle from grazing in riparian areas or regulated the use of commercial fertilizer, which contains the same phosphorus that poultry litter does.

Green asked Fite whether it was "humanly possible" for Oklahoma to implement any of the restrictions.

"The Oklahoma Scenic Rivers Commission has done

what we could," Fite responded.

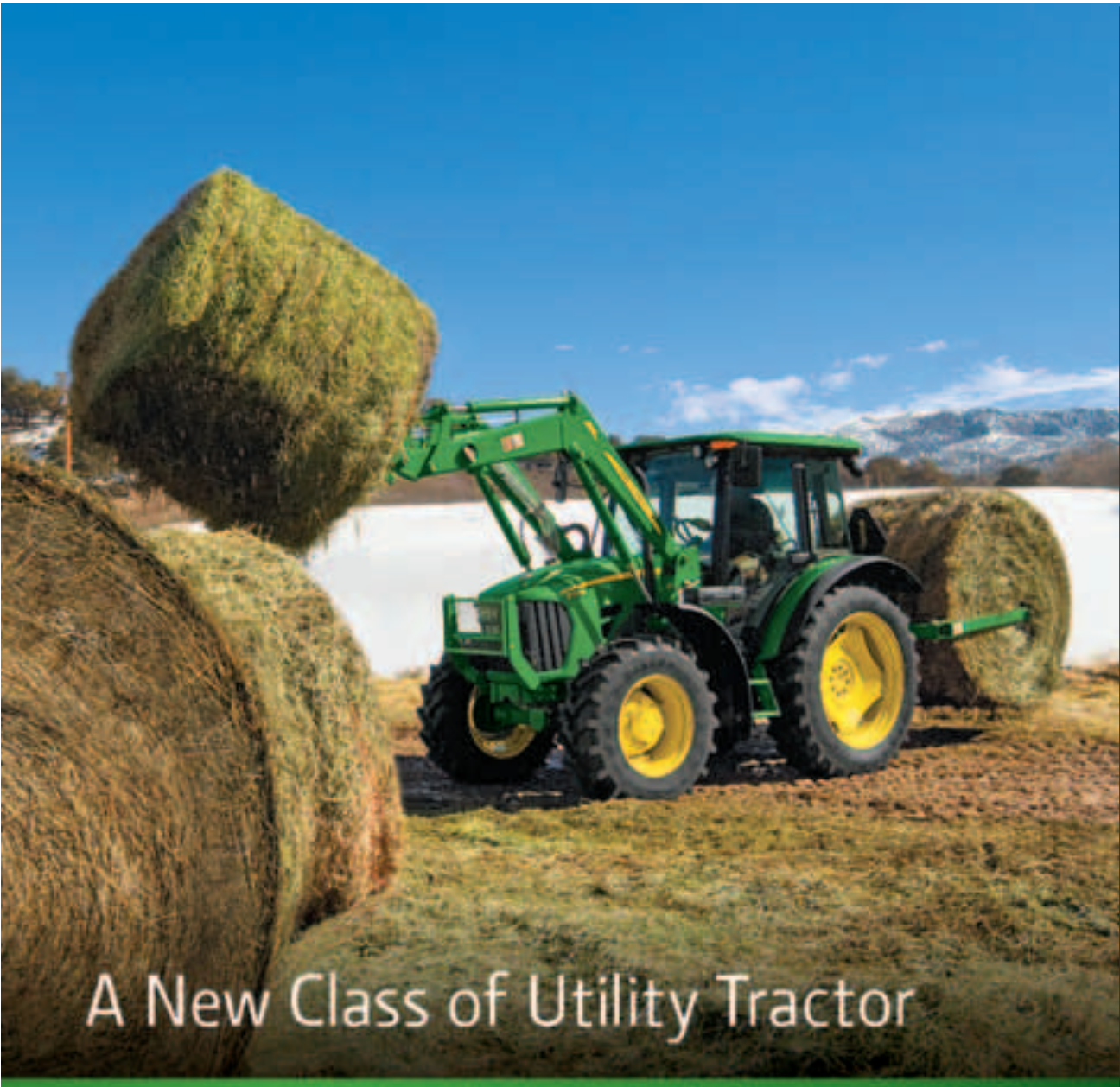
Fite's cross-examination came on the third day of testimony in the closely watched case, which could drag on for months.

Its outcome is being monitored by other states thinking about challenging the way the industry does business in other watersheds.

For decades, farmers in northeastern Oklahoma have spread litter from their chicken houses on their fields as a cheap fertilizer to grow oth-

er crops. The state argues runoff from the fields contains harmful bacteria that threatens the health of the tens of thousands of people who raft and fish in the watershed each year.

The defendants named in the lawsuit are Tyson Foods Inc., Cargill Inc., Cal-Maine Foods Inc., Tyson Poultry Inc., Tyson Chicken Inc., Cobb-Vantress Inc., Cargill Turkey Production L.L.C., George's Inc., George's Farms Inc., Peterson Farms Inc. and Simmons Foods Inc.



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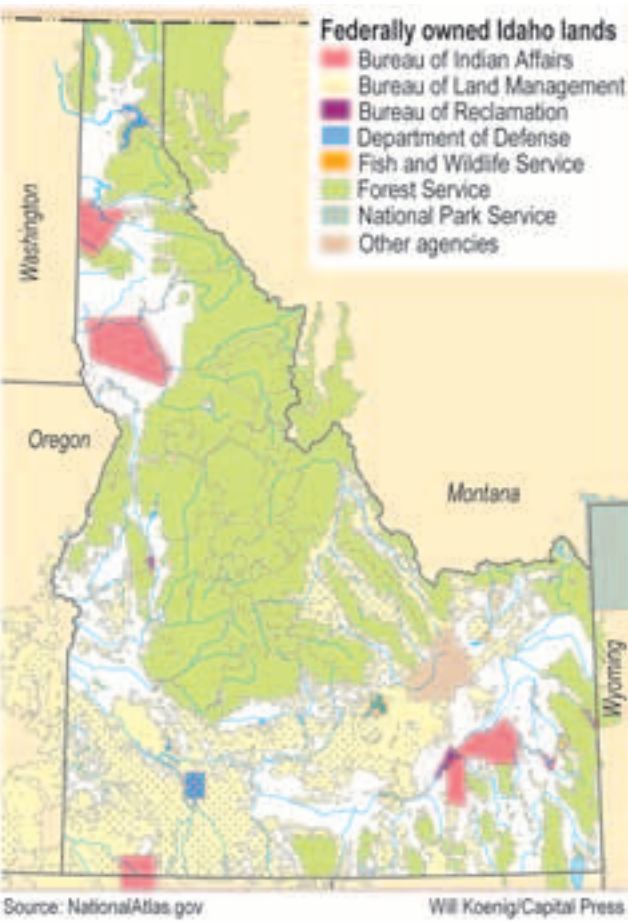
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# Timber



## Judge upholds logging in old-growth parcel

*Environmental groups challenged feds' modeling tools*

By MATEUSZ PERKOWSKI  
Capital Press

An environmentalist challenge to logging on a parcel of old-growth forest in Northern Idaho has been rejected by a federal judge.

U.S. District Judge Edward Lodge ruled Sept. 30 that the U.S. Forest Service did not violate environmental laws by allowing tree-cutting as part of a forest restoration project in the region.

“Although trees will be removed under the project, the project’s purpose is not logging of old growth,” the judge said in his ruling.

The environmentalist groups’ allegations take the Forest Service’s actions out of context, since the agency wanted to remove smaller-diameter trees to help prevent fire and disease, according to the decision.

Plaintiffs in the case — Lands Council and Wildwest Institute — claimed the agency’s Mission Bush Restoration Project would reduce old growth below 10 percent in the Idaho Pan-handle National Forests.

## Weather aids defense of town

WRIGHTWOOD, Calif. (AP) — Cool, calm weather may help firefighters surround a wildfire that burned three homes near the California mountain town of Wrightwood.

National Weather Service forecaster Stan Wasowski says

highs in the 60s to low 70s, higher humidity and light winds will continue through the week.

The blaze in the San Gabriel Mountains northeast of Los Angeles is 32 percent contained after burning 7,128 acres of brush and timber.

Ten percent old-growth cover is the minimum permitted by federally mandated forest management plans in the region.

The groups alleged the timber stand monitoring tools used by the Forest Service were inaccurate and overestimated how much old-growth habitat actually existed in the national forests.

Lodge disagreed, ruling that the agency used two independent modeling tools that corroborated each other and were backed up by timely field data and other studies.

Plaintiffs also claimed the project would remove replacement old-growth trees, which the agency didn’t properly consider in its restoration plans.

Lodge rejected those arguments as well, finding that the Forest Service had thoroughly examined the project’s effects on forest structure and wildlife species, including gray wolves, grizzly bears, woodpeckers and other animals.

“The USFS considered and analyzed the proper management of old-growth trees of the type found in the project area in arriving at its conclusions regarding appropriate treatments to achieve the project goals of restoring and creating healthier old-growth stands,” the ruling said.

# Restoration hits fast track

*FreshWater Trust expands web-based StreamBank program*

By LEE FARREN  
For the Capital Press

Stream restoration takes time, but individual projects could move at a faster pace, according to a 2008 survey conducted by Oregon Trout (now part of The FreshWater Trust, a Portland-based nonprofit organization).

Fifty coordinators of Oregon soil and water conservation districts and watershed councils identified funding and permitting as the two biggest bottlenecks in restoration work.

It can take up to 30 months to plan a project, obtain the necessary grants and permits, complete the on-the-ground work and receive payment. The landowners, watershed councils and SWCDs putting the projects together can grow discouraged and even give up in the face of delays and setbacks.

“Right now, if a landowner wants to fix a stream, even with a local coordinator, it’s a minor miracle to pull off a restoration project. It doesn’t have to be that way,” said Joe Whitworth, president of The FreshWater Trust.

Whitworth began working on a solution to that problem when he was executive director of Oregon Trout. He raised about \$2.5 million in private capital from a handful of longtime Oregon Trout donors and went to work developing StreamBank, a web-based software tool that incorporates design, funding and permitting functions in one place. StreamBank moves project coordinators through a series of screens where they answer questions to determine the best project design and funding sources.

“It creates a pretty straightforward management tool. Folks answer the questions, the information gets sorted for them, the forms are automatically brought up and the information filled in,” Whitworth said.

The FreshWater Trust has worked with



Lee Farren/For the Capital Press

StreamBank web-based software can help landowners and project coordinators with design, permitting and funding for stream restoration projects.

### Video

The FreshWater Trust has released “Changing Course: Freshwater Restoration for the 21st Century,” a 30-minute video covering the organization’s 2008 pilot projects and StreamBank web-based software. Video producer Jeremy Monroe visited several of the pilot projects to interview landowners and local coordinators. The video is available from Adrian McCarthy, The FreshWater Trust, 503-222-9091 ext. 30 or [Adrian@thefreshwatertrust.org](mailto:Adrian@thefreshwatertrust.org).

various permitting agencies to streamline their permits for common restoration projects like riparian fencing and planting and off-stream water developments. In addition, the trust secures funding from various sources and disburses it through the StreamBank program.

In 2008 The FreshWater Trust spent \$1 million of private foundation money to complete 17 projects in Oregon. In 2009 the Trust has arranged for \$60,000 of Environmental Protection Agency money, through the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, for one project.

“We’ve done a lot of projects, and now we’re stepping back and doing one big project with public dollars. We’ve tested

# BLM lists desired noxious weed fighters

By MATEUSZ PERKOWSKI  
Capital Press

The U.S. Bureau of Land Management wants to expand its arsenal of pesticides to fight noxious weeds in Oregon.

On Oct. 2, the agency released a draft environmental impact statement that examines the potential effects of using up to 14 additional herbicides in the state.

Canada thistle, Russian knapweed and other invaders could be controlled with safer and more target-specific chemicals developed in the past two decades, said Todd Thompson, project manager for the BLM.

Currently, the agency is limited to using four herbicides — glyphosate, dicamba, picloram and 2,4-D — as part of a 1987 court decision that only pertains to Oregon.

“If herbicide resistance was

### Possible tools

Additional herbicides considered for use on Oregon BLM lands: bromacil, chlorsulfuron, clopyralid, diflufenzopyr, diquat, diuron, fluridone, hexazinone, imazapic, imazapyr, metsulfuron methyl, sulfometuron methyl, tebuthiuron and triclopyr.

to develop, we would have another tool for treatment,” said Thompson.

Noxious weeds invade more than 140,000 acres of BLM land per year in Oregon, crowding out native plants, damaging wildlife habitat and contributing to wildfires, according to the environmental impact statement.

Of the 15.7 million acres of BLM land in the state, about

1.2 million are already infested with such weeds to some degree, the statement said.

However, in 1984, a federal district court judge ruled that BLM hadn’t properly analyzed the effects of pesticides on human health and barred the agency from using any chemicals to suppress weeds.

That order was modified three years later to exclude the four above-mentioned herbicides, after the agency had completed an environmental impact statement.

The latest draft environmental impact statement is the BLM’s first step toward expanding the list of approved pesticides. The statement is now up for public comment, after which a final version and record of decision will be published.

The decision would still be

subject to administrative appeal, after which a judge from the U.S. District Court for Oregon would need to lift the injunction on the additional pesticides.

“We’ve got a step or two left to go,” said Thompson.

The BLM has been cooperating with the environmental group that filed the initial lawsuit — Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides — but it could still encounter resistance to the plan from other organizations, he said.

“There may new challenges to the program that surface,” Thompson said.

The Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides declined to comment on the matter and referred questions to Umpqua Watersheds, another environmental group.

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Orchards, Nuts & Vines

Growers split over blueberry assessment

Decision on how much to increase fee up to USDA chief

By MATEUSZ PERKOWSKI  
Capital Press

The blueberry industry is evenly split on the prospect of doubling assessment fees to stimulate consumption of the crop, judging from comments to the USDA.

The number of remarks favoring and opposing the assessment hike were roughly equal during the comment period, which ended in late September.

Most arguments against the fee hike focused on the economic hardships farmers are suffering due to low prices for the fruit.

“It’s something we’re all aware of,” said Mark Villata, executive director of the U.S. Highbush Blueberry Council.

At the request of the council, the USDA in July proposed raising the assessment on blueberries from \$12 per ton to \$24 per ton. The council uses the funds to promote the crop.

The council requested the fee increase because global production of blueberries may double in the next five years or so, from 600 million pounds to 1.5 billion pounds.

For demand to keep pace with burgeoning supplies, annual domestic consumption of blueberries would need to rise from about 22 ounces to 44 ounces per person, Villata said.

At current production levels, the council’s proposed assessment hike would boost annual revenues for research and advertising from \$2.4 million to \$4.8 million.

The additional funds would be used to promote the fruit’s use in military and school meal programs and develop export markets for U.S. blueberries, Villata said. Currently, about a third of the U.S. crop is shipped overseas.

“We could be more aggressive in those areas,” Villata said.

Enhanced promotions will be needed because other food commodity groups are also heavily publicizing their crops’ health benefits, Villata said.

Such claims have been a major driver of blueberry consumption in recent years.

“Our message is getting diluted,” he said. “We’re not the only player out there.”

However, several growers questioned why the council needed to increase assessments when production growth would already contribute to rising revenues.

By doubling the assessment, the council would basically see

its income quadruple, farmer David Beach argued.

“That is excessive,” Beach wrote. “None of us are getting that kind of increase in value for our farms’ production.”

Other growers claimed that higher assessment fees — combined with growing input costs and blueberry prices at about \$0.30 per pound or below — would put many farms out of business.

Some growers questioned the value of USHBC promotions, while others said their own marketing efforts are effective enough.

Blueberry farmer Lynn Thompson stated that the public is already saturated with health benefit messages.

“The awareness is already at a high level; addition(al) promotion, I believe, is excessive and redundant,” Thompson wrote.

Farmer Phil Olson said he opposed the assessment hike because, unlike production expenses, the fees are not tax-deductible. Unprofitable farms must still pay assessment fees, even if they don’t owe taxes to state and federal governments.

“Having a tax imposed on a product with no consideration of the value of this product just makes no economic sense,” he said. “If a graduated income tax makes sense for the IRS and our federal income tax codes, then it should make sense here.”

Farmers, packers and associations that supported the assessment hike generally said that unless promotions were amplified, the industry’s economic situation would get even worse.

The promise of strengthening the link between blueberries and health was a strong theme in supportive comments.

“The health message that has been such a shot in the arm for the blueberry industry needs to continue and move into actual human clinical trials,” farmer Jeffrey Jawor wrote. “If it can be proven that blueberries can prevent or even cure a disease, the positive impact it would have on the industry would be enormous.”

The decision whether or not to increase the assessment is ultimately up to the USDA Secretary Tom Vilsack, who may also decide to reduce the size of the increase.

The USDA’s Agricultural Marketing Service will consult with its lawyers and economists about the proposal, then turn the information — along with grower comments — over to Vilsack, agency spokesman Jimmie Turner said.

The USHBC hopes to have the assessment in place by next year, but Vilsack does not face a deadline.

“There’s no time frame to decide what to do,” Turner said.

Hazelnut crop offers bright spot

Reduced harvest in Turkey means higher prices in Oregon

By MATEUSZ PERKOWSKI  
Capital Press

Amid the current economic gloom, Doug Olsen says he realizes he’s lucky to be an Oregon hazelnut grower.

The 2009 harvest has hit full swing earlier than normal, with growers reaping ample quantities of high-quality nuts.

Most importantly, prices are healthy.

“Nobody’s going to get fat, but everybody’s going to make some money,” Olsen said.

At about \$0.75 to \$0.80 per pound, hazelnuts are fetching roughly \$0.10 to \$0.15 per pound above the cost of production, said Olsen, who grows several hundred acres in the northern Willamette Valley.

Oregon’s projected production is up 19 percent, to 38,000 tons, and the percentage of defective nuts is the lowest in more than three decades, according to the USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service.

“We’re bullish,” said Compton Chase-Lansdale, president and CEO of the Hazelnut Growers of Oregon, a cooperative that packs and markets the nut.

The positive outlook for Oregon farmers is partly the result of significantly lower-than-expected production in Turkey, the world’s largest hazelnut producer, he said.

That country’s reduced production was aggravated by an insect infestation, Chase-Lansdale said. Altogether, Turkey is projected to harvest 350,000 tons of hazelnuts, down from the 550,000 tons anticipated



Mateusz Perkowski/Capital Press  
Farmer Doug Olsen inspects hazelnuts prior to harvest at one of his orchards in Oregon’s Willamette Valley.

earlier this year.

“That’s supporting much higher kernel prices,” he said. Oregon growers primarily sell into the in-shell market, but strong kernel prices provide them with additional options and improve overall market conditions.

The U.S. dollar has weakened against the European euro and other currencies, which makes Oregon hazelnuts more affordable overseas, he said.

The state’s largest export customer, China, continues to have an unabated appetite for hazelnuts, Chase-Lansdale said.

“The Chinese economy seems to have more resilience,” he said.

Hazelnut farmers have seen a major reversal in fortunes since the cusp of the 21st century, when low prices and the specter of Eastern filbert blight



cast a shadow over the industry, Olsen said.

Since then, markets have improved and Oregon State University has released several new tree varieties that are resistant to the fungal pathogen, said Mike Klein, manager of the Hazelnut Growers Bargaining Association.

The group represents growers in price negotiations with packers.

“We’re at that point where we’ve wanted to be for a number of years, which is a lot more people interested in planting hazelnuts,” Klein said. “We haven’t been able to attract the biggest customers, because we haven’t had enough supply. ... This helps with that.”

Major food buyers need a reliable source of raw materials, which poses a challenge due to the cyclical nature of hazelnut production — strong yields are often followed by weak ones the following season, said Olsen, who also serves as president of the bargaining association.

“It’s hard to entice a Hershey’s when one year you can

provide them with a trainload of nuts and the next year you can supply them with a truckload of nuts,” he said.

As of 2008, Oregon had a total of 30,100 acres of hazelnuts, with 28,400 acres of bearing maturity, said Polly Owen, manager of the Hazelnut Marketing Board, which promotes the crop and oversees quality control.

Based on an informal survey of tree nurseries, Owen estimates an additional 1,000 acres were planted last winter and about 1,200 acres will be planted this coming winter. However, some acres are likely being removed due to blight damage.

The Oregon industry dominates U.S. hazelnut production, but growers aren’t worried its strong economic position relative to other crops will spur over-planting, she said. Hazelnuts are traded on a global market, and Oregon is still much smaller than such behemoths as Turkey.

“Our acreage could increase significantly before we could impact the world,” Owen said.

Thousand canker hits Washington

PROSSER, Wash. (AP) — A fungus spread by beetles is killing black walnut trees in Prosser.

Six trees infected with thousand canker disease were found last year by Washington State University Extension educa-

tor Gwen Hoheisel on her property. She said little can be done to save infected trees. The infected trees have been removed.

Now many of the about 80 walnut trees on Prosser city property are showing yellow leaves and dead branches.

Hoheisel said the disease also has been found in Yakima and Walla Walla. It’s also ravaged trees in Oregon, Idaho, California and other states.

Thousand canker takes one to three years to kill a full-grown walnut tree.

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# Farm Market Report

## Hay Reports

Compiled by USDA Market News Service • Moses Lake, Wash.

Hay prices are dollars per ton or dollars per bale when sold to retail outlets. Basis is current delivery FOB barn or stack, or delivered customer as indicated.

Grade guidelines used in this report have the following relationship to Relative Feed Value (RFV), Acid Detergent Fiber (ADF), TDN (Total Digestible Nutrients), or Crude Protein (CP) test numbers:

Grade	RFV	ADF	TDN	CP
Supreme	185+	<27	55.9+	22+
Premium	170-185	27-29	54.5-55.9	20-22
Good	150-170	29-32	52.5-54.5	18-20
Fair	130-150	32-35	50.5-52.5	16-18
Utility	<130	36+	<50.5	<16

### WASHINGTON-OREGON HAY

(Columbia Basin)

(USDA Market News)

Moses Lake, Wash.

Oct. 2

<i>This week FOB</i>	<i>Last week</i>	<i>Last year</i>
8,280	24,160	12,470

Compared to last week: Premium and Supreme hay not recently well tested, however a higher undertone was noted on fourth cutting. Fair and Good Alfalfa traded steady to firm. All classes of Export hay traded fully steady. Retail hay sold steady. Volume has been increasing the last week as weather begins to get cooler across the state. Buyer demand moderate to good for Premium and Supreme dairy hay, moderate for Retail and Export hay, and light for all other classes. Most producers in the Basin are just finishing or have finished their final hay harvest of the year this week.

	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Price</i>
<b>Alfalfa Domestic Cattle Mid/Ton</b>	Supreme	135 \$134
	Premium	970 \$120-135
	Good	400 \$105-110
	Fair	525 \$80-85
<b>Alfalfa Export 2-3 tie small sq bales</b>	Premium	2,200 \$125-145
<b>Alfalfa Export Mid/Ton</b>	Premium	1,300 \$110

<b>Alfalfa Retail/feed store/horse</b>	
<b>2-3 tie small sq bales</b>	Premium 425 \$130-160
<b>Orchard Retail/feed store/horse</b>	
<b>2-3 tie small sq bales</b>	Premium 270 \$165-190
	Good/Prem. 140 \$120
<b>Orchard/Alfalfa Mix Retail/feed store/horse 2-3 tie small sq bales</b>	Premium 20 \$185
<b>Timothy Export 2-3 tie small sq bales</b>	Prem. 2nd Cut 300 \$180
	#1 2nd Cut 140 \$160
	#2 2nd Cut 190 \$140
<b>Timothy Export Mid/Ton</b>	Premium 35 \$190
	#2 2nd Cut 300 \$160

Orchard/Alfalfa Mix Retail/feed			
store/horse 2-3 tie small sq bales	Premium	20	\$185
Timothy Export 2-3 tie small sq bales	Prem. 2nd Cut	300	\$180
	#1 2nd Cut	140	\$160
	#2 2nd Cut	190	\$140
Timothy Export Mid/Ton	Premium	35	\$190
	#2 2nd Cut	300	\$160
Timothy Retail/feed store/horse			
2-3 tie small sq bales	Premium	40	\$180

CROOK, DESCHUTES, JEFFERSON, WASCO COUNTIES: Tons FOB Barn/Stack: 1,660.

Compared to last week: Premium Dairy hay not recently tested, however a firm undertone was noted. All classes of retail hay sold fully steady. All other classes not well tested. Buyer demand light to moderate for all classes, with mostly heavy supplies of hay.

Compared to last week: Premium Dairy hay not recently tested, however a firm undertone was noted. All classes of retail hay sold fully steady. All other classes not well tested. Buyer demand light to moderate for all classes, with mostly heavy supplies of hay.

	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Price</i>
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**Other hay:** 50 Tons.

EASTERN OREGON: Tons FOB Barn/Stack: 810.

No recent test for Premium and Supreme Alfalfa, however a steady to firm undertone was noted. Retail hay traded steady to weak on all types. Buyer demand mostly light for all classes.

	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Price</i>
<b>Alfalfa Domestic Cattle Mid/Ton</b>	Prem./Sup.	550 \$110
	Good/Prem.	100 \$95
<b>Orchard/Alfalfa Mix Domestic Cattle 2-3 tie small sq bales</b>	Good/Prem.	20 \$95
<b>Orchard/Alfalfa Mix Retail/feed store/horse 2-3 tie small sq bales</b>	Premium	20 \$160
<b>Timothy Export Mid/Ton</b>	Prem.	
	2nd Cut	120 \$125

**Other hay:** None.

HARNEY COUNTY: Tons FOB Barn/Stack: 1,035.

Compared to last week: Not enough Domestic cattle Alfalfa for a market test, however a steady undertone was noted. Export Alfalfa not recently tested with a definite higher undertone being noted. Buyer demand light to moderate for all classes of hay.

	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Price</i>
<b>Alfalfa Domestic Cattle Mid/Ton</b>	Good	35 \$90
<b>Alfalfa Export Mid/Ton</b>	Premium	1,000 \$125
<b>Other hay:</b>	None.	
<b>KLAMATH BASIN:</b>	Tons FOB Barn/Stack:	1,765.

Compared to last week: Premium and Supreme Alfalfa not recently tested, however a higher undertone is noted. Export hay traded steady to firm. Retail hay traded mostly steady. Buyer demand light for all classes of hay

## Grain-Rice-Bean Market Reports

Compiled by USDA Market News Service • Portland-St. Joseph, Mo.-Little Rock-Greeley, Colo.

Grains are stated in dollars per bushel or hundredweight (cwt.) except feed grains traded in dollars per ton. National grain report bids are for rail delivery unless truck indicated.

### NATIONAL GRAIN SUMMARY

(USDA Market News)

St. Joseph, Mo.

Oct. 2

Compared to last week, grain and soybean bids were mixed. Outside market influence opened the week in positive territory driving the grain into the green. On Wednesday The USDA report for soybeans was considered negative pegging the Sept. 1 stocks at 138.2 million bushels as compared to 110 million bushels which was 25-30 million above trade expectations. The 2008-09 U.S. soybean crop was revised up by 7.83 million bushels. The stocks-in-all-positions report for corn was considered supportive coming in at 1.674 billion bushels which was 45 million bushels below trade expectations. This compares to 1.624 billion bushels on Sept. 1, 2008, and the latest USDA ending stocks number for 2008-09 at 1.695 billion bushels. The wheat report was also negative raising all Wheat production to 2.220 billion bushels, up 36 million from the previous production report. Spring wheat and durum saw increases of 587.3 and 110.1 million bushels respectively. Wheat stocks as of Sept. 1 were 80 million bushels above trade expectations at 2.216 billion bushels. Late in the week outside markets were lower spilling over into the grains. Weekly export sales for wheat were in line with trade expectations at 538,200 tonnes for the current marketing year. Weekly export sales were very good for corn and soybeans coming in at 1,223,400 and 1,384,800 tonnes respectively. Temperatures across the Midwest have been cool and damp in some areas as rain moved in. Harvest has been sporadic across the Midwest with yields looking better than last year so far. Wheat was mostly 8-23 cents lower. Corn was 23 cents lower to 15 cents higher. Sorghum was 11 cents lower to 31 cents higher. Soybeans were mostly 9-17 cents lower.

**WHEAT**

Kansas City U.S. No. 1 Hard Red Winter, ordinary protein rail bid was 8 1/4 to 9 1/4 cents lower from \$4.29 1/2-4.74 1/2 per bushel. Kansas City U.S. No. 2 Soft Red Winter rail bid was 14 1/4 cents lower from \$4.19 1/2-4.69 1/2 per bushel. St. Louis truck U.S. No. 2 Soft Red Winter terminal bid was 23 cents lower at \$2.58 per bushel. Minneapolis and Duluth U.S. No. 1 Dark Northern Spring, 14.0 to 14.5 percent protein rail, was 22 1/2 to 37 1/2 cents lower from \$5.67 3/4-6.37 3/4 per bushel. Portland U.S. Soft White wheat rail was 10 to 12 cents lower from \$4.30-4.38 per bushel.

**CORN**

Kansas City U.S. No. 2 rail White Corn was 6 to 15 cents higher from \$3.44-3.53 per bushel. Kansas City U.S. No. 2 truck Yellow Corn was 4 cents higher from \$3.16-3.21 per bushel. Omaha U.S. No. 2 truck Yellow Corn was 2 to 5 cents higher from \$3.25-3.29 per bushel. Chicago U.S. No. 2 Yellow Corn was steady to 4 cents higher from \$3.15 1/2-3.46 1/2 per bushel. Toledo U.S. No. 2 rail Yellow Corn was 3 cents lower to 1 cent higher from \$3.33 1/2-3.40 1/2 per bushel. Minneapolis U.S. No. 2 Yellow Corn rail was 23 cents lower at \$3.04 1/2 per bushel.

**OATS AND BARLEY**

U.S. 2 or Better oats, rail bid to arrive at Minneapolis 20 day was steady to 5 cents higher at \$2.09 per bushel. U.S. No. 3 or better rail malting Barley, 70 percent or better pump out of Minneapolis was not available per bushel. Portland U.S. 2 Barley, unit trains and Barges-export was not available per cwt.

**SORGHUM**

U.S. No. 2 yellow truck, Kansas City was 11 cents lower at \$4.93 per cwt. Texas High Plains U.S. No. 2 yellow sorghum (prices paid or bid to the farmer, FOB elevator) was 21 to 31 cents higher from \$4.79-5.03 per cwt.

### PORTLAND GRAIN

(USDA Market News)

Portland

Oct. 2

Pacific Northwest: Bids for U.S. 1 Soft White Wheat, any protein and maximum 10.5 percent protein, for October Portland delivery ended the reporting week on Thursday, October 1, at \$4.30 to \$4.38, mostly \$4.35, 13 to 18 cents per bushel lower compared to last Thursday's noon bids of \$4.43 to \$4.56 for October delivery. White club wheat premiums for any protein and maximum 10.5 percent protein were \$2 to \$3.50, mostly \$3.25 per bushel over bids for any protein and maximum 10.5 percent protein soft white wheat. Last Thursday's premiums were \$2 to \$3.25, mostly \$3 per bushel over soft

on heavy supplies.

	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Price</i>
<b>Alfalfa Domestic Cattle</b>		
<b>2-3 tie small sq bales</b>	Prem./Sup.	550 \$120
	Fair	80 \$85
<b>Alfalfa Export Mid/Ton</b>	Premium	850 \$100

<b>Alfalfa Retail/feed store/horse</b>	
<b>2-3 tie small sq bales</b>	Premium 60 \$120
<b>Meadow Grass Retail/feed store/horse</b>	
<b>2-3 tie small sq bales</b>	Good 25 \$100
<b>Orchard Export Mid/Ton</b>	Good 100 \$180
<b>Orchard/Alfalfa Mix Retail/feed store/horse 2-3 tie small sq bales</b>	Good 100 \$130
<b>Other hay:</b>	None.

LAKE COUNTY: Tons FOB Barn/Stack: 4,160.

Compared to last week: Supreme Alfalfa traded firm with last week's light test. Export Alfalfa not recently tested, however a mostly firm undertone was noted. Buyer demand light to moderate for all classes and types of hay. Retail hay not well tested, but a firm undertone is noted. Hay supplies are currently heavy.

		Tons	Price
Alfalfa Domestic Cattle			
2-3 tie small sq bales	Supreme	70	\$150
Alfalfa Domestic Cattle Mid/Ton	Supreme	630	\$140
Alfalfa Export 2-3 tie small sq bales	Premium	500	\$160
Alfalfa Export Mid/Ton	Premium	2,000	\$150
Oat Domestic Cattle Mid/Ton	Fair	100	\$80

### IDAHO HAY

(USDA Market News)

Moses Lake, Wash.

Oct. 2

<i>This week FOB</i>	<i>Last week</i>	<i>Last year</i>
5,350	4,546	8,250

Compared to last week: All classes of Domestic Cattle Alfalfa traded mostly steady. Export hay traded steady. Retail hay traded steady to firm on a very thin test. Buyer demand mostly light for all classes with heavy supplies of hay. Many producers have just finished their final cutting of hay this week.

	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Price</i>
<b>Alfalfa Domestic Cattle Mid/Ton</b>	Supreme	1,100 \$110-130
	Premium	60 \$100-105
	Good/Prem.	150 \$100
	Fair/Good	150 \$80
	Utility	250 \$55
	Good/Prem.	2,000 \$83-85

<b>Alfalfa Export Mid/Ton</b>	
<b>Alfalfa Retail/feed store/horse</b>	
<b>2-3 tie small sq bales</b>	Premium 70 \$135-150
<b>Alfalfa Retail/feed store/horse Mid/Ton</b>	Premium 70 \$110
<b>Orchard Domestic Cattle Mid/Ton</b>	Premium 50 \$125
<b>Other hay:</b>	1,450 Tons.

### CALIFORNIA HAY

(USDA Market News)

Moses Lake, Wash.

Oct. 2

<i>This week FOB</i>	<i>Last week</i>	<i>Last year</i>
27,100	18,810	40,762

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA

**FOB barn/stack**

14,145

**Tons delivered**

1,850

Compared to last week, Premium and Supreme Alfalfa steady to \$5 higher. Fair and Good Alfalfa traded steady. Retail and Stable hay sold steady to firm. Grain hay steady. Buyer demand light to moderate on all classes with heavy hay supplies. Several producers reporting freezing morning temperatures in parts of the local trade area.

	<i>Tons</i>	<i>Price</i>
<b>PETALUMA Delivered prices</b>		
<b>Alfalfa Domestic Cattle</b>	Premium	250 \$145
	Good	150 \$135
	Fair	225 \$110-125
<b>ESCALON-MERCED-MODESTO-TURLOCK Delivered prices</b>		
<b>Alfalfa Domestic Cattle</b>	Supreme	250 \$147-150
	Fair	825 \$85-90
	Premium	125 \$85

**Oat Domestic Cattle**

NORTHERN-INTERMOUNTAIN AREAS FOB prices

**Alfalfa (Organic) Domestic Cattle**

Premium 70 \$130

**Alfalfa Domestic Cattle**

Supreme 1,500 \$110-130

Prem./Sup. 3,000 \$110-115

Fair 60 \$60

Utility 120 \$50

Premium 2,000 \$110-115

Alfalfa Retail/light<110 lb. bales

Premium 25 \$145

Orchard Retail/light<110 lb. bales

Premium 75 \$200-245

Good/Prem. 150 \$140-160

Alfalfa Domestic Cattle	Supreme	1,500	\$110-130
	Prem./Sup.	3,000	\$110-115
	Fair	60	\$60
	Utility	120	\$50
Alfalfa Export	Premium	2,000	\$110-115

SACRAMENTO VALLEY FOB prices

**Alfalfa Domestic Cattle**

Supreme 650 \$130-150

Premium 575 \$110-120

Good 750 \$100-110

Fair 150 \$75-90

Alfalfa Retail/light<110 lb. bales

Premium 850 \$110

Oat Domestic Cattle

Good 125 \$55

Orchard Retail/light<110 lb. bales

Premium 105 \$130-180

Good 25 \$140

<b>Rice Straw Retail/light&lt;110 lb.</b>	
<b>Chino Valley</b>	\$7.92-7.94
<b>Los Angeles</b>	\$8.24-8.26

**WHEAT - U.S. No. 2 or better - Hard Red Winter**

(Domestic Values for Flour Milling) California origin

13 percent Protein \$9.82-10.16

Truck/Rail 12 percent Protein \$9.16-9.49

**SORGHUM - U.S. No. 2 Yellow**

Rail

**Los Angeles-Chino Valley**

via BNSF Single \$8.24

**OATS - U.S. No. 2 White**

Truck

**Petaluma-Stockton-Modesto-Turlock**

Ind. \$9

**Los Angeles-Chino Valley**

\$11.50-11.75

**WHEAT - Any Class for Feed**

Truck

**Petaluma**

\$8.15-8.30

**Stocktn-Modesto-Turlock**

\$8.15-8.50

**L.A.-Chino Valley**

\$9-9.50

Prices paid to California farmers, seven-day reporting period ending Oct. 2:

**WHEAT, U.S. No. 1, Hard Amber Durum for Flour Milling**

**Imperial**

\$7.65 current del. local Elevator

**YELLOW CORN, U.S. No. 2 or better**

**Merced**

\$6.25-6.35 AH, Oct FOB Ranch

**Sacramento**

\$6.35 AH, Oct Fob Ranch

**NATIONAL BEAN REPORT**

(Federal-State Market News)

**Greeley, Colo.**

Oct. 6

Dealer prices per cwt. carlot/trucklot FOB basis U.S. No. 1 cleaned and bagged; grower prices threshers run, clean basis except California cleaned and bagged FOB country warehouse. (Not est.-price not established; Ltd.-limited sales reported; Mst.-most.)

Dry Edible Bean market activity was slow to moderate. Grower level prices are becoming more established as dealers begin to receive inquiries from end users. All prices are quoted on new crop basis.

Commodity	Dealer	Grower
<b>Pintos</b>		
Idaho	Ltd. \$42-44	Ltd. \$30-32
Washington	Ltd. \$41	Ltd. \$28-30
<b>Great Northern</b>		
Idaho	Not Est.	Not Est.
<b>Small White</b>		
Wash./Idaho	V Ltd. \$46	Not Est.
<b>Pink</b>		
Wash./Idaho	Ltd. \$45-46	Ltd. \$30-32
<b>Small Red</b>		
Wash./Idaho	Ltd. \$42-45	Ltd. \$30-32
<b>Garbanzo</b>		
Wash./Idaho	\$37-38	\$28-29

Dealer market trading activity was very slow. Demand light to moderate. Grower market trading activity was very slow as harvest continues, with limited grower values being established on an as needed basis.

**Baby Lima**

Not Est. Not Est.

**Large Lima**

Ltd. \$72-74 V Ltd. \$70

**Blackeye**

Not Est. V Ltd. \$38-40

**Garbanzo (54/58s)**

Not Est. Not Est.

**PEAS AND LENTILS**

WASHINGTON AND IDAHO

Dealer market trading activity remains slow. Demand was light. Grower market trading activity was slow to moderate as new crop harvest progresses.

<b>Green Pea Split</b>	Ltd. \$20-21	
<b>Green Pea Whi</b>	Ltd. \$14.25-15	Ltd. \$9-10
<b>Yellow, Pea Split</b>	Not Est.	
<b>Yellow Pea Whi</b>	Not Est.	Ltd. \$8-9
<b>Asst. Wnt Pea</b>	Ltd. \$30-32	Ltd. \$18
<b>Lentil</b>	Ltd. \$30-32	Ltd. \$22-24
<b>Pardina</b>	Ltd. \$30-32	Ltd. \$22-24

Dealer market trading activity was very slow. Demand light to moderate. Grower market trading activity was very slow as harvest continues, with limited grower values being established on an as needed basis.

**CALIFORNIA GRAIN**

(USDA Market News)

**Portland**

Oct. 2

Prices in dollars per cwt., bulk Inc. = including; Nom. = nominal; Ltd. = limited; Ind. = indicated; NYE=Not fully estimated.

**GRAIN DELIVERED**

**Mode Destination Price per cwt.**

**BARLEY - U.S. No. 2 (46-lbs. per bushel)**

Truck

**Petaluma-Santa Rosa**

\$7.50-8.25

**Stockton-Modesto-Oakdale-Turlock**

\$7.50-8.15

Rail

Any origin

**Stockton-Modesto-Oakdale-Turlock**

via Union Pacific and BNSF NA

**Tulare - via Union Pacific**

Ind. \$7.55

**CORN - U.S. No. 2 Yellow**

Truck

**Petaluma-Santa Rosa**

\$7.55-7.65

**Stockton-Modesto-Oakdale-Turlock**

\$8.15-8.17

Rail

27 and 54 car units via BNSF

<b>bales Small square, per bale</b>	Good	300 \$2
<b>Wheat Domestic Cattle</b>	Good	50 \$60
<b>Wheat Straw Retail/light&lt;110 lb. bales</b>	Good	50 \$60
<b>Wheat Straw Retail/light&lt;110 lb. bales Small square, per bale</b>	Good	400 \$2.25-3
<b>ESCALON-MERCED-MODESTO-TURLOCK FOB prices</b>		
<b>Alfalfa Domestic Cattle</b>	Supreme	200 \$145-150

**Other hay:** 225 Tons.

CENTRAL CALIFORNIA



# Livestock Auctions

Cattle prices in dollars per hundredweight (cwt.) except some replacement animals per pair or head as indicated.

California		
SHASTA (Shasta Livestock Auction) Cottonwood, Calif.		
Oct. 2		
<i>This week</i>	<i>Last week</i>	
1,118	972	
Compared to last week, demand soft and spotty this week amid tough fat and futures market. Slaughter cows \$3-4 lower. Bulls steady to \$2 lower. Heiferettes strong. Cattle under 650 steady to \$1 higher. Yearlings \$2-3 lower. Off lots & singles \$7-15 lower than top offerings.		
Slaughter cows: Breakers \$41-47, \$48-54 high dress; Boning \$35-40; Cutters \$30-34.		
Bulls 1 and 2: \$49-57; \$58-66.75 high dress.		
Feeder steers: 300-400 lbs. \$105-120; 400-450 lbs. \$105-115; 450-500 lbs. \$103-111; 500-550 lbs. \$95-103; 550-600 lbs. \$92-103.75; 600-650 lbs. \$90-97; 650-700 lbs. \$83-88.25; 700-750 lbs. \$81-90.50; 750-800 lbs. \$83-87.25; 800-900 lbs. \$80-87.		
Feeder heifers: 300-400 lbs. \$95-109.50; 400-450 lbs. \$93-103.50; 450-500 lbs. \$88-102.50; 500-550 lbs. \$83-93; 550-600 lbs. \$83-92.50; 600-650 lbs. \$80-90.75; 650-700 lbs. \$80-83.25; 700-750 lbs. \$75-82; 750-800 lbs. \$75-80; 800-900 lbs. \$74-80.		
Pairs: No test.		
Calvy Cows: No test.		

Idaho		
CALDWELL (Treasure Valley Livestock) Oct. 2		
Steers: 300-400 lbs. \$91.75; 400-500 lbs. \$80; 500-600 lbs. \$79; 600-700 lbs. \$77; 700-800 lbs. \$75; 800-900 lbs. \$67.50; 900-1000 lbs. \$70; 1000 lbs. and up \$53.75.		
Heifers: 300-400 lbs. \$77.25; 400-500 lbs. \$77.50; 500-600 lbs. \$66; 600-700 lbs. \$72; 700-800 lbs. \$76; 800-900 lbs. \$78.50; 1000 lbs. and up \$47.		
Cows: 700-800 lbs. \$40.75; 800-900 lbs. \$38.50; 900-1000 lbs. \$39.75; 1000-1100 lbs. \$40; 1100-1200 lbs. \$41.75 1200-1300 lbs. \$42.50; 1300-1400 lbs. \$43; 1400-1500 lbs. \$43; 1500-1600 lbs. \$44; 1600-1700 lbs. \$44; 1700-1800 lbs. \$46.25; 1800-1900 lbs. \$46.25; 1900-2000 lbs. \$46.75; 2000 lbs. and up \$45.75.		
Bull calves (wt.): 300-400 lbs. \$90.75; 400-500 lbs. \$71; 500-600 lbs. \$80; 600-700 lbs. \$74.50; 800-900 lbs. \$50; 1200-1300 lbs. \$47; 1300-1400 lbs. \$49.25; 1400-1500 lbs. \$41.		
Bulls (wt.): 1500-1600 lbs. \$49; 1600-1700 lbs. \$50.50; 1700-1800 lbs. \$50; 1800-1900 lbs. \$55; 1900-2000 lbs. \$53.75; 2000-2100 lbs. \$55.25; 2100-2200 lbs. \$60.50.		
Stock cows: 800 lbs. and up \$500.		
Bull calves (hd.): 100-200 lbs. \$80; 200-300 lbs. \$265.		

Heifer calves (hd.): 100-200 lbs. \$135; 200-300 lbs. \$205; 300-400 lbs. \$185.		
Steer calves (hd.): 200-300 lbs. \$215; 300-400 lbs. \$185.		
Pairs (hd.): 1000 lbs. and up \$875.		
COTTONWOOD (Cottonwood Livestock Auction) Oct. 2		
Total receipts: 290.		
Market comment: Light calves steady. Heavy feeders \$2-4 lower.		
Steers: 200-400 lbs., \$101-113; 400-500 lbs., \$98-107; 500-600 lbs., \$94-106; 600-700 lbs., \$83-96; 700-800 lbs. \$83-88; 800-950 lbs., \$81-86.		
Heifers: 200-400 lbs., \$94-106; 400-500 lbs., \$91-103; 500-600 lbs., \$85-95; 600-700 lbs., \$78-84; 700-800 lbs., \$75-81; 800-950 lbs., \$73-78.		
Cows: boning \$39-45.50; feeder \$41-47; breaker \$38.50-44; canner/cutter \$33-38.50; heiferettes \$45-58.		
Bulls: \$43-58 per head.		
Baby calves: \$75-225 per head.		
Stock cows: \$550-850 per head.		
Pairs: \$850-1065 per pair.		

Washington		
DAVENPORT (Stockland Livestock Auction) (USDA Market News) Moses Lake, Wash. Oct. 6		
<i>This week</i>	<i>Last week</i>	<i>Last year</i>
1,234	845	990
Compared to last week, feeder cattle steady to weak, instances \$1-2 lower. Feeder Cattle were second day of Special Carlot sale. Slaughter cows, steady to \$2 higher. Slaughter Bulls near steady. Trade and demand was moderate to active. Slaughter cows made up 18 percent of the offering, slaughter bulls 1 percent, replacement cows less than 1 percent and feeder cattle 80 percent. The feeder supply included 58 percent steers and bulls, 42 percent heifers and cows. Near 56 percent of run weighed over 600 lbs.		
Feeder Steers: Medium and Large 1-2: 300-400 lbs. \$91-105; 400-500 lbs. \$91-105; 500-600 lbs. \$85-95; 600-700 lbs. \$86.75-95; 700-800 lbs. \$82-93.25; 800-900 lbs. \$83-88.		
Feeder Steers: Large 1-2: 900-950 lbs. \$85; 950-1000 lbs. \$66-74;1000-1100 lbs. \$72-74; 1100-1250 lbs. \$61.0-67; 1500-1750 lbs. \$50.		
Feeder Bulls Medium and Large 1-2: 400-500 lbs. \$84-86; 500-600 lbs. \$87-87.75; 700-750 lbs. \$62-65.		
Feeder Heifers: Medium and Large 1-2: 300-400 lbs. \$81-85; 400-500 lbs. \$80-95; 500-600 lbs. \$76-89; 600-700 lbs. \$76-86; 700-800 lbs. \$71.50-82.50; 800-850 lbs. \$71.25.		
Feeder Heifers: Large 1-2: 850-900 lbs. \$70; 900-950 lbs. \$71-76.		
Feeder Cows: Medium and Large 1-2: Heiferettes 950-1000 lbs. \$44.50-46; Young age 850-1175 lbs.		

3\$8.50-41.75.		
Slaughter Cows: Breaking 75-80 percent lean 1550-1875 lbs. \$43-45; Boning 80-85 percent lean 1000-1800 lbs. \$40.25-45; Lean 85-90 percent lean 1200-1725 lbs. \$38-43.75; Lean 85-90 percent lean 850-1200 lbs. \$34.75-42; Lean 90s percent lean 950-1175 lbs. \$20-26.		
Slaughter Bulls: Yield Grade 1-2: 1100-1400 lbs. \$42.25-48, 1400-2350 lbs. \$52.25-55.25.		
Baby Calves: Medium and Large 1-2: 250-275 lbs. \$260 per head; Large 2-3: Holsteins 100-115 lbs. \$30 per head.		
Cow/Calf pairs: Medium and Large 1-2: Young to middle age 1000-1300 lbs, with 200-350 lb. calves, 660-770 per pair.		
Hogs: 8. Barrows and gilts: U.S. 1-2 34 lbs. \$37.50 per head.		
Sheep: 6. Feeder Lambs: Medium and Large 1-2 70 lbs. \$85-86. Ewes: Choice 1-2 woolled 150-175 lbs. \$31.		
Goats (per head): 81. Kids: Selection 1-2 20-30 lbs. \$10-14; 35-40 lbs. \$26-27.50; 50-60 lbs. \$53; 65-80 lbs. \$72.50-85. Nannies: Selection 1-2 90-95 lbs. \$55; 105-120 lbs. \$65-80; 160-180 lbs. \$90-92.50. Billies: Selection 1-2 115-185 lbs. \$85.		
TOPPENISH (Toppenish Livestock Auction) (USDA Market News) Moses Lake, Wash. Oct. 2		
<i>This week</i>	<i>Last month</i>	<i>Last year</i>
1,625	1,130	900
Compared to last Thursday at same market, feeder cattle \$2-4 lower. Trade slow with light demand. Slaughter cows \$1-2 higher. Slaughter bulls \$1-3 lower. Trade active with good demand. Slaughter cows made up 39 percent of the offering; Slaughter bulls 5 percent, Replacement cows 10 percent and feeders 46 percent of the supply. The feeder supply included 41 percent steers and 59 percent heifers. Near 51 percent of the run weighed over 600 lbs.		
Feeder Steers Medium and Large 1-2: 400-500 lbs. \$89.50-94; 500-600 lbs. \$87.25-92.75; 600-700 lbs. \$85.25-89; Calves; 700-800 lbs. \$85-87.25; 800-900 lbs. \$84.75-85.25. Large 1-2: 900-1000 lbs. \$78-81.50. Small and Medium 1-2: 300-400 lbs. \$91. Small and Medium 2-3: 400-500 lbs. \$70, Full. Small and Medium 3-4: 600-700 lbs. \$54.50, Full. Small 4: 500-600 lbs. \$27, Mexican Origin; 600-700 lbs. \$30.50, Mexican Origin.		
Holstein Steers Large 2-3: 300-400 lbs. \$75.		
Feeder Bulls Medium and Large 1-2: 500-600 lbs. \$79.50-81.25; 600-700 lbs. \$79.85; 700-800 lbs. \$78.		
Feeder Heifers Medium and Large 1-2: 300-400 lbs. \$83-89; 400-500 lbs. \$79.50-86; 500-600 lbs. \$75-81; 600-700 lbs. \$76.75-77.75; 600-700 lbs. \$80-82.85; Calves; 700-800 lbs. \$80-82.25; 800-900 lbs. \$81; 800-900 lbs. \$65, Full. Large 1-2: 900-1000 lbs. \$72-72.50. Large 2-3: 700-800 lbs. \$58.50; 800-900 lbs. \$58.50;		

900-1100 lbs. \$60; 1200-1300 lbs. \$47.25; 1300-1400 lbs. \$46.25; Small and Medium 1-2: 300-400 lbs. \$80.50; 400-500 lbs. \$77; 500-600 lbs. \$72. Small and Medium 2-3: 200-300 lbs. \$80; 500-600 lbs. \$52.50, Full; 600-700 lbs. \$75.
Feeder Bulls Medium and Large 1-2: 500-600 lbs. \$79.50-81.25; 600-700 lbs. \$79.85; 700-800 lbs. \$78. Large 2-3: 600-700 lbs. \$42.50.
Replacement Cows: Prestested for pregnancy and age with an April 15 cutoff for calving unless otherwise stated.
Bred Cows (Per Head): Medium and Large 1-2: Mid-1000-1100-1600 lbs 1-6 mos bred 1-7 mos bred. Medium and Large 2-3: 1150-1300 lbs 1-3 mos bred \$560-675.
Slaughter Cows: Breakers 75-80 percent lean 1200-1900 lbs. \$44-48; Boners 80-85 percent lean 1200-1900 lbs. \$43-48; Lean 85-90 percent lean 1200-1800 lbs. \$43-47; Lean 85-90 percent lean 800-1200 lbs. \$38-43; Lean 90s percent lean 800-1200 lbs. \$30-35.
Slaughter Bulls, Yield Grade 1-2: 1000-2350 lbs. \$52-57.

OREGON		
EUGENE (Eugene Livestock Auction) Oct. 2		
Total receipts: 675.		
Compared to last week, cows and bulls steady off slightly; feeder steers steady; heifers off.		
Top cows: high dressers \$36-44, low dressers \$30-36; top \$10 40.43.		
Top bulls: high dressers \$40-52.50.		
Feeder bulls: 500-700 lbs. \$64-86.50.		
Choice feeder steers medium to large frame No. 1 and No. 2: 300-400 lbs. \$75-92; 400-500 lbs. \$80-94; 500-600 lbs. \$80-92; 600-700 lbs. \$75-87; 700-800 lbs. \$70-75.75.		
Choice feeder steers medium to large frame No. 1 and No. 2: 300-400 lbs. \$70-80; 400-500 lbs. \$70-80.25; 500-600 lbs. \$70-80; 600-700 lbs. \$68-75.50; 700-800 lbs. \$70-77.		
Bred cows: \$350-835 hd.		
Feeder lambs: 50-90 lbs. \$ 90-95; 90-130 lbs. \$85-94.		

KLAMATH (Klamath Livestock Auction) Sept. 29		
Total receipts: 340 head.		
Choice steers: 300 lbs., \$99-115; 400 lbs., \$106-115; 500 lbs., \$98-107; 600 lbs. \$97-107; 700 lbs. \$70-77; 800 lbs., \$75.50-84.25.		
Choice Heifers: 300 lbs., \$97.50-99; 400 lbs., \$95-107.50; 500 lbs. \$95-97; 700 lbs., \$75.50-82.50; 800 lbs., \$76-77.		
Slaughter cows: High yield \$48-55; med. yield \$40-42; Low yield \$30-39.		
Slaughter bulls: High yield \$50.25-65.25.		
Top cows \$55.		
Top bull: \$65.25.		
Cow/calf pair \$710-920.		

SAN ANGELO (Producers Livestock Auction) (USDA-Texas Market News) Sept. 30		
<i>This week</i>	<i>Last week</i>	<i>Last year</i>
8,205	9,231	10,264
Compared to the last week, nannies steady; kids firm to \$2 higher. Trading and demand moderate. Supply included 20 percent slaughter lambs, 25 percent slaughter ewes, balance goats.		
GOATS: Estimated 55 percent of receipts: Slaughter kids: Selection 1 25-40 lbs. \$112-122; 40-80 lbs. \$112-124; 80-100 lbs. \$111-118. Selection 1-2 25-40 lbs. \$100-110; 40-80 lbs. \$100-112; 80-100 lbs. \$90-106. Selection 2 30-40 lbs. \$90-95; 40-80 lbs. \$90-100.		
Slaughter does and nannies: Selection 1-2 80-130 lbs. \$37-48, few 48-52.50; 130-160 lbs. \$35-45; thin 70-115 lbs. \$25-37.50.		
Slaughter bucks and billies: Selection 1-2 70-100 lbs. \$85-96; 100-150 lbs. \$70-92, yearlings \$91-96; 150-250 lbs. \$62-92.		

# Shipping Point Trends

Compiled by USDA Market News Service Washington, D.C.

Unless otherwise stated, shipments are for the weeks ending Sept. 19, Sept. 26, and Oct. 3. Expected movement is for the period Oct. 4-17. Prices are for Monday, Oct. 5, compared with Monday, Sept. 28.

Vegetables		
BROCCOLI		
ALL CALIFORNIA DISTRICTS—Shipments 155-146-121—		
SALINAS-WATSONVILLE, CALIF.—Movement expected about the same as the 88 units shipped last week. Trading early fairly active, late active. Prices much higher. Cartons bunched 14s mostly \$13.45-14.50, 18s mostly \$13.95-15, 20 pound cartons loose Crown Cut mostly \$16-16.55. Quality variable.		
CABBAGE		
ALL CALIFORNIA DISTRICTS—Shipments 25-25-24—		
CENTRAL COAST, CALIF.—Movement expected about the same as the 10 units shipped last week. Trading moderate. Prices higher. 50 pound cartons 18-24s Round Green type mostly \$9.45-10.15, Red type \$9.45-10.15. Quality generally good.		
ONIONS, DRY		
COLUMBIA BASIN, WASH., AND UMATILLA BASIN, ORE.—Shipments 347-341-298 (includes export of 85-85)—Movement expected to remain about the same. Trading steady low. Prices generally unchanged. Yellow Hybrid 50-pound sacks colossal \$6-7, jumbo mostly \$5.50, medium mostly \$5-9, irregular size fair quality mostly \$7-7.50, Red irregular size fair quality mostly \$6.95-7.50. 15 pound cartons Red extra large and large mostly \$6.85-7.50. Quality Red variable, Green generally good.		
POTATOES		
UPPER VALLEY, TWIN FALLS, BURLEY DISTRICT, IDAHO—Shipments 590-565-600—Movement expected to decrease slightly. The growing area received rain/snow Sunday and Monday (Oct. 4-5) which curtailed harvest. Trading baled fairly active, cartons moderate. Prices Burbank cartons generally unchanged, others lower. Russet		

Burbank U.S. One 2-inch or 4-ounce minimum baled 5 10-pound film bags non size A mostly \$3.50-4, 50-pound cartons 40-100s mostly \$7-7.50. Russet Norkotah U.S. One 2-inch or 4-ounce minimum baled 5 10-pound film bags non size A mostly \$3.50-4, 50-pound cartons 40-100s \$6. As of week ending Oct. 3, 70 count Norkotah are about \$7.50 per carton under the same Time last year and \$2.50 per carton under the 5-year average price. Shipments for the month of September were 2,371,000 cwt, a twenty percent increase from September 2008 shipments of 1,970,000 cwt. *revised.		
COLUMBIA BASIN, WASH., AND UMATILLA BASIN, ORE.—Shipments 288-255-189 (includes export of 37-44-28)—Movement expected to remain about the same as growers continue putting potatoes in storage. Trading slow. Prices slightly lower. Russet Norkotah U.S. One 2-inch or 4-ounce minimum baled 5 10-pound film bags non size A mostly \$4-5. 50-pound cartons 40-50s mostly \$6, 60-80s mostly \$6-6.50, 90-100s mostly \$7. Shipments for the month of September were 1,176,000 cwt, a seventeen percent decrease from September 2008 shipments of 1,412,000 cwt. *revised.		
NORTHWESTERN WASHINGTON—Shipments 20-40-69—Movement expected to remain about the same. Trading fairly active. Prices generally unchanged. Round Red U.S. One 50-pound carton size A mostly \$13-14, size B mostly 18, Creamers mostly \$32-34; Long White U.S. One 50-pound carton size A \$18, size B mostly \$12. Creamers mostly \$32-34; Yellow Type U.S. One 50-pound carton size A mostly \$18, size B mostly \$12-14, Creamers mostly \$32-34. Shipments for the month of Septem-		

ber were 15,000 cwt, a slight increase from September 2008 shipments of 14,000 cwt.

**TOMATOES**

CENTRAL DISTRICT, CALIF.—Shipments 244-189-225—Movement expected about the same. Trading early slow, late fairly active. Prices extra large higher, others generally unchanged. 25 pound cartons loose Mature Greens extra large mostly 7.95, large and medium \$6.95. Quality generally good.

**Fruit**

**APPLES**

YAKIMA VALLEY AND WENATCHEE DISTRICT WASHINGTON—2009 CROP Shipments 496-662-854 (includes exports 132-144-198)—Movement expected to increase. Trading active. Prices Red and Golden Delicious 72-100s slightly lower, others generally unchanged. Washington Extra Fancy carton tray pack Red Delicious 72-88s mostly 18, 100s 18, 113s \$17-18, 125s \$16-18. Golden Delicious 72-88s mostly \$18, 100s mostly \$16, 113-125s \$14-16. Gala 72s, \$20-22, 80s \$20, 88s \$18-20, 100s \$16, 113-125s \$14-16. Quality generally good. Harvest in full swing.

**CANTALOUPE**

SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY, CALIF.—Shipments 474-382-296—Movement expected to decrease seasonally. Trading early fairly active, late active. Prices higher. 1/2 cartons 9-12s mostly \$8.45-9.50, 15s mostly \$8.45-8.50. Quality generally good.

**GRAPES, TABLE**

SAN JOAQUIN DISTRICT, CALIF.—Shipments 148-

118-145—Movement expected to decrease. Trading active. Prices generally unchanged. 19 pound containers bagged Black Seedless large mostly 16.10; Red Globe large \$14.10-15.10; Crimson Seedless large mostly \$16.10, medium \$14.10-15.10. 16 pound containers bagged Thompson Seedless large \$18.10-20.10. Extra services included.

### PEARS

YAKIMA VALLEY AND WENATCHEE DISTRICT WASHINGTON—Shipments 129-168-172 (includes exports 67-74-72)—Movement expected to increase slightly. Trading fairly active. Prices generally unchanged. 4/5 bushel cartons wrapped U.S. One Bartlett 70-80s \$20-22, 90s mostly \$20, 100s \$16-18, 110s \$14-16, 120s \$12-14, 135s \$11-13. D'Anjou 70-90s \$22-24, 100s \$20-22, 110s \$18-20, 120s \$16-18, 135s \$14-16. Quality generally good.

### PLUMS AND PRUNES

CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN SAN JOAQUIN VALLEY DISTRICT, CALIF.—Shipments 75-48-35—Movement expected to decrease. Trading moderate. Prices lower. 28 pound cartons loose Autumn Beaut 20 sizes \$17.10-19.10, 30-35 size mostly \$18.10, 40-45 size mostly \$17.10, 50-55 size mostly \$15.10.

### RASPBERRIES

SALINAS-WATSONVILLE DISTRICT, CALIF.—Shipments 21-19-16—Movement expected to remain about the same. Trading very active. Prices higher. Flats 12-6 ounce pounce up with lids Red \$16-18. ORGANIC: Flats 12-6 ounce pounce up with lids Red \$16-18. Includes palletizing and cooling. Wide range in quality.



Research/Life

Depressed production alarms scientists

Researchers publish plea for increased farm-oriented R and D

By TIM HEARDEN  
Capital Press

The growth of the world’s agricultural productivity will continue to wane unless more resources are put into research and development, a trio of researchers has concluded.

In a paper in the journal *Science*, researchers Julian Alston of the University of California-Davis and Philip Pardey and Jason Beddow of the University of Minnesota note a decline in the growth rate of major food crops such as corn, rice, wheat and soy-

beans.

They blame a number of factors for this decline, including climate change, land degradation, government policies, higher input costs and shifts to less-productive crops.

But a lack of adequate public and private investment in research, along with a shift in research emphasis, are major culprits for the lack of growth, said Alston, an agricultural economist at UC-Davis.

“One of the subtle and nasty consequences of slower productivity growth is that . . . people are still going to want to eat, and they’ll cut down rainforests faster” to create more farmland rather than becoming more efficient with the land they have, Alston said in an interview.

“With the climate change happening, we’re going to have to do more farm-oriented R and D just to adapt to deal with changes in weather patterns to maintain productivity,” he said.

The scientists’ findings resulted from a study funded by the universities of California and Minnesota, the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Giannini Foundation of Agricultural Economics and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Their solution is to urge the U.S. government and other nations, as well as the private sector, to invest more in farm productivity research—a solution Alston realizes could be a tough sell amid a recession and tight budgets.

“I’m hopeful that the government

will recognize it’s a good idea,” he said. “What we try to do is . . . share just what a good investment it is. It’s an astonishingly good investment of public money.”

One idea, he said, is for governments to adopt programs similar to one in Australia, where the government matches dollar-for-dollar contributions to checkoff-type producer levies for research.

In the U.S., some research and development dollars for agriculture has been redirected from productivity toward food safety and quality as well as for medical, energy and industrial uses, the researchers say.

Alston has no quarrel with those studies, but he said productivity research has maintained yields as new

Online

To read the scientists' report, "Agricultural Research, Productivity, and Food Prices in the Long Run" in the September issue of the journal *Science*, visit [www.sciencemag.org](http://www.sciencemag.org).

pests, diseases and other environmental problems have arisen. This research has also resulted in more abundant supplies of food at more affordable prices, which reduce pressure on natural resources.

“It’s connected in various ways,” Alston said. “Sure, some of what we do in farm productivity has clear implications for food safety and quality and other implications.”

English-English dictionary needed

I recently invited a French college professor as guest lecturer for part of the three-hour class on writing I teach to 21 students each week.

His subject was not French, nor did he speak in French, except for an occasional word. His talk was appropriate because he spoke on the English written word.

That, in itself would not be unusual since most of my students write in English.

But professor Marcel Sarde explained he spoke British English. He had interned, however, at the University of Washington, where he discovered Americans speak a different English. His talk was comparing the two common languages separated by an ocean.

It was Oscar Wilde who wrote in 1887, “We have really everything in common with America nowadays except, of course, language.” Marcel set about proving that.

Let’s just look at English through the eyes of the English:

Take food, for instance. An eggplant is an aubergine. A sausage is a banger. Sausage and mashed potatoes are bangers and mash. A hamburger-type bun is a bap. A cookie is a biscuit.

A dish of cold meat fried with cabbage and potatoes is a bubble and squeak. French fries are chips, but potato chips are crisps. Zucchini is a courgette. Graham crackers are digestives. A rutabaga is a swede. A pasty is a meat pie. Dessert is called afters.

To the British, all of that is nosh, which translates to “food to eat.”

Our differences, Marcel explained, are more than in the food department. A ballpoint pen over there is a biro. A policeman is a bobby. The hood of an automobile is a bonnet, and the car’s trunk is a boot. Suspenders are braces. Reflectors in the roadway are cat’s eyes. A drugstore is a chemist shop. A mobile home is a caravan.

If all this that I have said so far is excellent, in the British Isles it would be topping. But don’t ask for a washcloth at

The View From Here  
Bill Duncan



the hotel, because it is a face flannel. If you are seeking a restroom, you had better ask for the facilities or the loo. And if you are looking for a hardware store, you’d better inquire about the ironmonger.

Not only do the Brits drive on the wrong side of the road, but they have colorful names for their roadways. A four-lane divided highway is a dual carriageway. Yield signs will say give way. A crosswalk is a zebra crossing.

Walkways alongside a river or a canal are towpaths. If you are asked to make a check mark on a document, you will be expected to “tick it.” A flashlight is a torch. A can is a tin. Rubber boots are wellies. If you talk too much, you will be accused of nattering on. You will probably be told to put a sock on it, or in our language, shut up.

If you cut yourself, don’t ask for a Band-Aid, but seek a plaster. And if you want your lunch to go, you better tell the waiter you want a take-away.

Agatha Christie’s novels taught me that a garage sale in England is a jumble. And if you need a strip of scotch tape, you best ask for sellotape.

On the last voyage of the Queen Mary, my dining room steward told me I could order anything on the Queen Mary and they would supply it. I ordered a Dr Pepper. After some puzzlement, he wanted to know if that was a medicinal drink. Also on that voyage I learned that a thumbtack is a drawing pin to the English. When I told my room steward that was a funny name for thumbtack, his polite reply was, “Sir, we have been speaking the language longer than Americans.”

Touché, cousin. We just don’t speak the same language.

Bill Duncan can be reached by writing in *American English* to P.O. Box 812, Roseburg, OR 97470.

Synthetic molecule tailors traits

Company expects market will accept DNA technique

By MATEUSZ PERKOWSKI  
Capital Press

Regulatory and legal hurdles can hinder the introduction of technologically enhanced crops, but one trait developer sees those obstacles as an advantage.

Cibus Global, an international company with labs in San Diego, Calif., aims to bypass the controversies surrounding biotechnology by altering plant genetics without actually inserting genes from other organisms.

Because the resulting crops aren’t “transgenic,” Cibus can avoid the expensive bureaucratic requirements and potential litigation that confront genetically modified organisms, said David Voss, vice president of commercial development for the firm.

“That is one of the big selling points for our technology,” Voss said.

By circumventing such barriers, Cibus expects to drastically reduce the cost of bringing new products to market compared with major biotech developers, he said.

Seed companies that license the traits could also extend their reach into industries and countries that have resisted genetically modified technology, Voss said.

“We can only do what nature can do,” he said.

The firm’s proprietary technology — the Rapid Trait Development System — relies on a plant’s internal process of repairing DNA, the genetic code that determines inherited traits.

Cibus uses a synthetic molecule, known as an oligonucleotide, to bond with a specific part of the plant’s DNA, resulting in mismatch of genetic sequences.

When enzymes within the plant’s cell repair the mismatched DNA, they use the oligonucleotide as a model for the right configuration.

The synthetic molecule disintegrates after the repair, but the genetic sequence itself re-

Creating a change in the letters of DNA code using *RTDS™*

Courtesy of Cibus Global

mains altered.

The technique zeroes in on specific portions of DNA, providing Cibus with control over the exact traits it wants to change.

Basically, researchers convince the plant to make a gene correction within a targeted area. They’re able to isolate that area thanks to an understanding of its total genetic map, or genome.

“We’re a technology that follows right behind the genomic revolution,” Voss said, referring to the scientific decoding of human, animal and plant genomes.

“We have a tool that can be used to make those sequence changes without the use of foreign DNA,” he said.

Gene reconfigurations regularly occur in organisms, but in the past century, scientists have used radiation and chemicals to prompt such mutations.

Such mutations were random, but Cibus modifies the DNA with a set purpose.

The process falls under the definition of mutagenesis — rather than genetic modification — so it isn’t under the regulatory purview of the USDA’s Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service for transgenics, Voss said.

The company also expects Canada and the European Union to exempt its proprietary traits from regulations that govern genetically modified organisms, he said.

Recently, a major global

pesticide manufacturer, Makhteshim-Agan, agreed to invest \$37 million with Cibus to develop proprietary traits in five crops with an eye toward the European market.

Voss said details about the exact crops and traits could not yet be disclosed, but herbicide tolerance and disease resistance were likely to play a role. Improving crop suitability for bioenergy production is another possibility, he said.

As part of a separate agreement, Makhteshim-Agan also has the option to buy of 50.1 percent of Cibus shares over several years. Financial details of that deal were not disclosed.

Cibus has previously entered into an agreement with the BASF chemical company to develop canola that can tolerate the pesticide Clearfield. The firm is paid for trait development as well as sales-based royalties, Voss said.

The Center for Food Safety, an opponent of genetically modified crops, is skeptical of the alliance between Cibus and pesticide manufacturers, said Bill Breese, science policy analyst for the group.

Manufacturers are interested in herbicide-resistant crops because the seeds create a new source of revenue and boost demand for the chemicals themselves, Breese said.

“That’s a double benefit to the company, but not for the environment,” he said. “We

were promised these new technologies would free us from pesticides, but it’s taken us in the opposite direction.”

Breese said herbicide-tolerant traits increase overall pesticide use and chemical residues on crops.

As for the genetic-repair process employed by Cibus, the Center for Food Safety hasn’t studied it closely because the crops haven’t yet been introduced to the market, he said.

“We’ll take a closer look at it,” Breese said.

The potential for Cibus traits outside conventional agriculture is unclear.

Voss said nothing would technically prevent the crops from being grown by organic farmers, since the genetic changes occur as part of a regular plant process.

Even if the crops aren’t transgenic, the firm’s technique would probably be viewed with caution among organic growers and certification groups, said David Decou, executive director of the Organic Materials Review Institute.

The process manipulates the DNA repair process, forcing it to reconfigure, which would likely cause alarm within the organic industry, Decou said.

“My guess is that most certifiers would say this is too close to genetic modification,” he said.

“It would not go over easy would be my guess.”

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41-4/#18

AG ESSENTIALS

in next week's Capital Press

The West's Ag Weekly

Mitch Lies reports on a study that shows environmental lawsuits are costing taxpayers billions of dollars.

Carol Dumas tells the story of an Idaho farmer whose trip to the Amazon inspired him to breed exotic birds.

Columnist Bill Duncan opines on -- well, we don't know yet, so you'll have to wait and read it.

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41-4/#13



## Research Center

# Virus strikes Mich. blueberry center

*University will have to destroy plants used in valuable research*

DETROIT (AP) — The bloom could be off Michigan’s \$124 million-per-year blueberry industry after two destructive viruses infected bushes in three locations.

Particularly upsetting to scientists is where one of the outbreaks occurred — Michigan State University’s agricultural research station in southwestern Michigan. An outbreak of blueberry shock is forcing scientists to destroy plants that represent two decades and millions of dollars of research.

It will take years for new plants to mature so research can resume, said An-nemiek Schilder, an associate professor of plant pathology and blueberry researcher. Still, she said, “We can’t risk having that spread its way through Michigan’s blueberry industry.”

Blueberry shock is believed to have started in the Pacific Northwest and is spread by bees carrying infected pollen. The virus causes sudden death to flowers and leaves, although new ones can grow.

Plants remain infected, but sometimes return to full productivity in a few years.

Blueberry scorch — found on two southwestern Michigan farms — is common on both North American coasts. It’s spread by aphids and has symptoms similar to blueberry shock. Some infected bushes die, while others appear normal.

Unlike fungus infections, the viruses have no known treatments.

So far, there’s no sign of the diseases spread beyond those three spots, but the Michigan Department of Agriculture says the risk to the state’s 19,000 acres of blueberries remains.

Michigan is the nation’s No. 1 producer of blueberries, with 110 million pounds harvested last year. New Jersey was second at 42 million pounds. Nationwide, production totaled 407 million pounds.

Totals for this year aren’t in yet, but industry groups and growers say Michigan had a bumper crop. Nationally, production is expected to be up as well, according to the North American Blueberry Council.

Blueberry shock spreads only in



Blueberry shock is believed to have started in the Pacific Northwest and is spread by bees carrying infected pollen. The virus causes sudden death to flowers and leaves, although new ones can grow.

the spring when bees pollinate bushes’ blooms. Between now and then, Michigan State scientists are undertaking a crash study of the disease to learn as much as possible before they have to destroy their plants to prevent the virus from spreading.

They will look at the effect of winter dormancy on the infection, monitor the presence of the virus in buds and establish testing protocols, Schilder said. Down the road, their work may help commercial growers struggling with infections.

But the losses are great for the researchers working at the Trevor Nichols Research Complex, about four miles from Lake Michigan in Saugatuck Township in the midst of southwestern Michigan’s blueberry country. The

four acres of blueberries there have been used since the early 1990s for research on diseases and pests affecting the fruit. Scientists at the station have looked at topics ranging from pesticide residue to bee pollination, fruit funguses and insect infestation.

Schilder’s own work at Michigan State dates back 11 years. The university could try to lease land from blueberry farmers to continue its research, but once the station’s blueberry bushes are destroyed, no work will be done there for four or five years, she said.

It’s unclear how the university’s plants got the disease. But Schilder said if any good comes from the outbreaks, it will be in raising growers’ awareness of the need to obey a quarantine on untested blueberry plants

Online

Blueberry shock:  
[www.blueberries.msu.edu/shock.htm](http://www.blueberries.msu.edu/shock.htm)  
Blueberry scorch:  
[www.blueberries.msu.edu/scorch.htm](http://www.blueberries.msu.edu/scorch.htm)  
North American Blueberry Council:  
[www.blueberry.org](http://www.blueberry.org)

from Oregon, Washington, British Columbia and other infected areas.

The Michigan Department of Agriculture is working to track down the sources and any possible spread of the two diseases, said department spokeswoman Jennifer Holton.

“It’s like plant health CSI,” Holton said. “We’re going to figure out how it got into the state and where it spread.”

# Study envisions \$8B regional bioscience impact

*Mississippi Delta plan would employ ag land, industrial capacity*

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (AP)—A study by a Memphis nonprofit group proposes major changes in the way agricultural land in the Delta is used to create a bioeconomy worth \$8 billion with more than 25,000 jobs in the next decade.

The study commissioned by Memphis Bioworks Foundation was released in late August. It says 36 million acres in the Mississippi Delta now producing cotton and trees could be converted to producing plants that could be turned into biofuels or plastics.

“This is recognized as one of the most productive farmlands in the country,” said Steve Bares, executive director of the Bioworks Foundation.

He said the agricultural changes

Online

Memphis Bioworks AgBio initiative:  
[www.agbioworks.com](http://www.agbioworks.com)

proposed by the study wouldn’t reduce food crops, which is one of the criticisms of corn-based ethanol production.

As petroleum-based products are replaced with plant-based ones, a bioeconomy could produce 50,000 jobs in the region in the next 20 years, the study conducted by consulting firm Battelle Technology Partnership Practice concludes.

Besides biofuels and polymers for plastic products, alternative plants could be turned into lubricants or briquettes that can be used with coal to produce electricity. Agencies from Arkansas, Kentucky, Mississippi, Missouri and Tennessee helped fund the study.

Bares said Memphis not only is surrounded by millions of acres of farmland but also has lots of shuttered manufacturing sites that easily could be converted to process biobased materials.

The city already has one company producing bioproducts. PMC Biogenix Inc. transforms agricultural materials into cling wrap, said Peter Nelson, AgBio co-coordinator for Memphis Bioworks.

“For Memphis, this study makes it clear that we have a dual role,” Bares said. “One is to take advantage of our own underutilized industrial capacity, our strong business infrastructure and our unique agricultural assets and to develop them. The second is to provide a regional approach that will build strong collaborations.”

Although the city has infrastruc-



Research

ture to help support the processing end, a network needs to be established between farmers and manufacturers, Bares said.

Farmers also have to be persuaded to give alternative crops a try. Bioworks has created the 25Farmer Network, a partnership with the Tennessee Department of Agriculture, that matches farmers willing to try alternative crops with buyers.

“Each one of those we’re developing a multiyear partnership with to build out the new supply chain,” Nelson said.

The Memphis Bioworks Foundation was created in 2001 to foster bioscience research and business in the city. It has worked with public and private business and academic and government organizations on projects that include the University of Tennessee-Baptist Research Park, a science and engineering charter school and investment fund supporting new bioscience ventures.

# Conservation group plans Utah climate research hub

SALT LAKE CITY (AP) — A sprawling cattle ranch in the dramatic canyonlands of southern Utah could play a key role in understanding the effects of climate change around the West.

The Nature Conservancy hopes to break ground next year on the Canyonlands Research Center, just east of Canyonlands National Park.

The center is intended to serve as a hub for scientists studying climate change and management of public lands on the Colorado Plateau.

The station is ideally located in Utah, which is expected to warm more dramatically than many other states, according to climate predictions, said Barry Baker, a Moab-based climate scientist for the conservancy.

“It’s obvious we’re seeing changes,” he said. “What we want to do there is investigate how we can help land management adapt.”

The Nature Conservancy paid \$4.6 million for the 5,200-acre Dugout Ranch in 1997. The ranch, which borders vast tracts of public land, sits among steep sandstone cliffs, talus slopes and scatterings of ancient rock art that lead to a Canyonlands area known as The Needles.

The ranch is well-situated to establish a research station to mark changes due to warming climate and determine if land-use policies that govern grazing, recreation and other activities need to be altered, supporters said.

Scientists have said that under warming conditions, the area could face increasing drought, faster snowmelt, more dust, less water availability in the Colorado River and a rise in some invasive species.

“The Canyonlands Research Center has the potential to generate some of the world’s most important science on the interactions of climate change and land use,” said Joel Tuhy, director of science for the conservancy’s Utah chapter.

The center would be a partnership of the conservancy, Utah State University, four federal agencies, the state of Utah and Indian Creek Cattle Co.

Jeff Troutman, chief of Resources at Canyonlands National Park, said scientists in the area have been talking for more than a decade about a joint station where researches could gather, work and provide information.

“The fact that we’re at a higher altitude gives us some early indications of what might happen around us,” Troutman said.

The Nature Conservancy is also planning an assessment of plants and animals in Utah deemed the most vulnerable to climate change.

Online

[www.nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/utah/](http://www.nature.org/wherewework/northamerica/states/utah/)

# Rancher spends summer studying cattle disease

*Tending animals, range vital to respiratory investigation*

SHERIDAN, Wyo. (AP) — For much of this summer, Rick Landeis’ office has been in the Big Horn Mountains, where he sleeps in a simple cabin and works alone on horseback, surrounded by cattle.

An animal science instructor at Sheridan College and veteran rancher, Landeis is in the second year of a research project examining bovine respiratory disease in calves moved up on the mountain to graze.

The goal of the project is to learn specifically why some cattle contract the disease, while others develop antibodies even though they haven’t been vaccinated.

“If the cow herd is managed properly, then perhaps the necessity of vaccinating calves before weaning might be questionable,” Landeis said.

Bovine respiratory disease occurs primarily in calves and is the No. 1 killer of beef cattle in the United States, Landeis said. A complex of five viruses

“If the cow herd is managed properly, then perhaps the necessity of vaccinating calves before weaning might be questionable.”

Rick Landeis

es, BRD infects calves’ respiratory tracts, and they eventually develop pneumonia.

“It can be a big problem where some producers lose quite large amounts of calves,” Landeis said. “I’d venture to guess that every substantial cattle producer has dealt with BRD.”

While veterinarians recommend that producers vaccinate calves for BRD, Landeis said he has discovered that even among vaccinated herds, cows continue to get sick.

In 2008, Landeis began a two-year study with Bovi-Shield, a widely used

vaccine donated by pharmaceutical giant Pfizer Inc. Using cattle owned by the Flitner Ranch in Shell, Landeis vaccinated one-third of the herd via injection, one-third by spraying the vaccine into the calves’ nostrils and left one-third unvaccinated.

Records were kept on sick cattle during the summer they grazed on a tract of land donated by the Purdy Ranch Foundation in the Big Horns above Buffalo.

Landeis wound up treating 10 sick calves in 2008, five from each vaccination group. None of the unvaccinated cattle developed BRD.

When blood samples of that group were sent to the state veterinary laboratory for analysis, Landeis was surprised by the results.

“These calves had never been vaccinated, yet they had antibodies for all these diseases. That was quite perplexing,” he said.

This year, Landeis is continuing the study in an attempt to learn exactly which viruses the cattle are developing antibodies to. None of the 280 cow/calf pairs he is managing on the mountain was vaccinated for BRD

this summer, and blood samples were taken of all the cattle before they were placed on the mountain.

Though he’s been watching carefully for signs of sickness, so far Landeis has not identified any cases of BRD in the herd.

“If they get sick, I’ll have to rope the calf, take blood and a nasal swab, and get that to the state vet’s lab in order to isolate which of the five viruses these animals are getting,” he explained.

A second part of Landeis’ study this summer involves measuring the effectiveness of “QuietWean” flaps, a plastic nose flap that allows the cow and calf to be near each other but doesn’t allow the calf to nurse.

Typically, BRD is seen at weaning, because weaning can be stressful to the calf, and stress is a contributing factor to BRD, Landeis said.

“These QuietWean flaps claim to reduce stress by 25 percent,” he said. “We will have calves weaned the old-fashioned way and some with these straps. Then we’ll measure which has a higher mortality for BRD.”

The herd has been on the moun-

tain since mid-July and will remain there until October under Landeis’ watchful eye. He generally spends four nights at a time managing the herd, sleeping in a small cabin with no electricity or running water.

With the cool, wet weather the region has been experiencing this summer, Landeis said, he has worked in the rain on each of his last four trips. There’s also no shortage of work he has to do by horseback.

“There’s cattle to be sorted, fences to be repaired, and I place range minerals and salt out,” he said. “One major part of the land endowment is that the range be managed well.”

“One important thing in range management is keeping cattle scattered. There’s certain places they always want to be, creek bottoms and riparian areas.”

A Wyoming native, Landeis grew up on ranches in Cody and coached the Sheridan College rodeo team until 2007, when he began to get busy with his animal science classes and research projects. Last summer, Landeis logged 600 hours on the mountain working on the project.



# Growers take fresh look at peppermint

*Crop acreage increases in Oregon, Washington, Idaho*

By JOHN SCHMITZ  
For the Capital Press

The Northwest peppermint industry has changed dramatically in the past 10 or so years — one of the many victims of the world-gone-flat theory. The good news, however, is that it appears the worst may be over, says one industry official. “It’s holding its own, and, in fact, there’s been an increase in acres in Oregon, Washington and Idaho, and

prices have gone up,” said Rocky Lundy, executive director of the Mint Industry Research Council. MIRC is charged with improving quality and yields in U.S. mint fields. As is the case with other Northwest crops, peppermint has suffered at the hands of cheap offshore production coupled with price-driven demand, Lundy said. Hurt the most by all of this have been Oregon’s Willamette Valley and the Madras area, where lower yields and/or the cost of production have put growers at a big disadvantage when competing with cheap peppermint oil from India and

other countries. Not only did Willamette Valley peppermint acreage shrink from a high of 27,000 acres in the late 1990s to around 5,500 acres three years ago, Central Oregon’s peppermint crop, which hit a high of 13,000 acres around the time, has all but left the scene in favor of growing mint for tea leaves. However, both districts have been making a slight comeback, Lundy said. The turnaround for peppermint oil began when prices for wheat fell and peppermint oil handlers, beginning with I.P. Callison and Sons, began adjusting the price they paid for contracted mint to reflect

the higher costs of inputs, Lundy said. “That (indexing) was a good thing for the mint industry.” Lundy said he was more than a little concerned two years ago when oil and fertilizer prices shot up and the price of wheat and corn — then attractive crop alternatives to peppermint — skyrocketed about the same time. Input costs had risen so dramatically that growers were asking for \$30 a pound for their oil when typical contract prices were running around \$15, Lundy said. The higher asked-for price was not met because handlers themselves were also con-

tracted for oil at a fixed rate to their customers and end users weren’t bending. “A lot of growers got caught off guard. There were a lot of (peppermint) acres coming out,” Lundy said. “I’m glad that’s over with.” It’s ironic that the main competition for U.S. peppermint oil (Mentha piperetta) is derived from a plant that doesn’t even produce peppermint oil: Mentha arvensis. Grown mainly in India, M. arvensis produces an oil extremely high in menthol, which is actually an undesired compound when present in large quantities. M. arvensis oil is sold into

world markets either as is or minus a lot of its menthol, which has been crystallized out. It’s the latter, called DMO or de-mentholated oil, that scientists blend with higher-quality U.S. mint oils to approximate the flavor profile of 100 percent U.S. mint oils. One facet of growing peppermint, like hops, that serves as a built-in limit switch is that because the crop is perennial in nature and more difficult to establish, growers are not as fast to rip it out, Lundy said.

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# Adios, concert stage; hello, classroom

*Enthusiasm for soil sciences now drives former music man*

By JOHN SCHMITZ  
For the Capital Press

CORVALLIS, Ore. — When James Cassidy helped Information Society win a platinum record in 1988, it might have been the high-water mark of his life. Actually, the bass guitarist on the million-selling album says he gets a bigger lift out of teaching soil science at Oregon State University. Cassidy, a Minnesota native whose father was a pioneer top fuel dragster, was himself driven to music instead of racing, long before he began to wonder about the wonders hidden beneath his feet. “I was very disconnected from agriculture then,” he says. After becoming fluent on the banjo as a teenager, he was attracted to several different music genres: rock, pop, new wave and eventually hip-hop. “At one time I played in four different bands at one talent show,” he says. But the type of hip-hop that made Cassidy and the Information Society famous was not something you’d expect to hear from an all-Anglo group. Instead, the band, which formed right after high school graduation, chose to specialize mostly in Latino hip-hop dance music.

After playing small, local gigs for several years, the group began touring regionally, seven men in one VW camper. On some occasions, they spent their nights in the nearest hayfield. “We didn’t expect much,” he says. After disbanding and then reforming several times, the group, now typecast as a Latino hip-hop, freestyle band, began playing larger venues on the East Coast in the mid-1980s. Cassidy was not prepared for what happened at the band’s first gig in New York. “The first show we played was in a literally underground nightclub called the Devil’s



Oregon State University soil science instructor James Cassidy with gold record he helped pop band Information Society win in 1988. A platinum album, awarded for 1 million sales, soon followed gold.

Nest, or El Nido Diablo. It was an all-Latin audience in the south Bronx.” What surprised the band were the hundreds of teens waiting to get into the club, and the near-pandemonium that broke out when they jostled to get good seats for the show. Little did the band know that one of the songs they had cut earlier, a dance number called “Running,” had become a huge hit with Latinos. “They were floored when they saw us — white kids from Minneapolis.” It was the breakout hit on their Warner Bros.-released

“Tommy Boy album” — “What’s On Your Mind? (Pure Energy)” — that drove the album to coveted gold status — 500,000 albums. A short time later, sales reached 1 million copies, and platinum was awarded. “That song was huge,” Cassidy said. “Everything just worked. It was on MTV, the No. 2 record on pop charts, the No. 1 dance record for weeks.” All this while the band scored another achievement, one not often found in the pop music world: Except for a little pot here and there, it remained drug-free and vir-

tually alcohol-free, Cassidy said. Another bit of trivia Information Society can lay claim to is that its third and last Warner Bros. album was historical in that it was the last vinyl album released by that label. After touring the U.S. four times and playing once to 135,000 people in Rio de Janeiro (“For us that was a giant, crazy thing,” Cassidy said), the band broke up again in the early 1990s.

## Changing passions

It was about this time, when music was going



Pickles are processed in OSU’s Food Science pilot plant by the university’s Organic Growers Club, which Cassidy mentors.

through one of its many metamorphoses, that Cassidy was called from the world of pop music to the earth. At first he wanted to be a fish farmer, but he chuckled that after moving from New York to Oregon and getting a degree in fisheries science from OSU in 1997. It was his interest in water quality and how it is affected by soils that led him to an OSU master’s degree in soil sciences. Today, Cassidy, president of the Oregon Society of Soil Scientists, has a genuine reverence and enthusiasm for soil, and it shows in the way he teaches. “Good teaching is a performance,” he said. “I’ll get pretty intense and march around the room, shocking (students) with truths.” Cassidy said part of his job as a teacher is to break

through the “media-trance” that many students are in today, a spell brought on by the avalanche of data streaming through the Information Age. “I’ve participated in it in a very high level and know exactly (what is happening).” Cassidy said he believes all human beings are living in a fantasyland, really “missing the boat” in how the world really works. To him, the environment, and everything that it touches, is heavily influenced by the soil. “It’s all dependent on basic resources, and soil is probably the most fundamental.” Cassidy and the original Information Society band still get together now and then for revival concerts.

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# Idaho couple builds a business at a start-up farmers’ market

*Organic product line has grown to include some craft items*

By BARBARA COYNER  
For the Capital Press

VIOLA, Idaho — In a business climate that taxes patience, Debi Robinson-Smith and Dave Smith have made a point of persevering. When the two quit their day jobs to grow organic produce, they picked a newly emerging local farmers’ market as their main sales outlet. For a time, progress was as fast-paced as watching grass grow. But now that Dale’s Saturday Market in Potlatch draws steady crowds, Debi and Dave know their consistency at the market has paid off. “We were committed for the long haul,” Debi said, even when the weather was bad and

bags of produce went unsold. “I wasn’t really ever discouraged. We knew this would be an upward slog.” Marketing under Ravencroft Organic Products, the small farm’s first presence was at a market at the Moscow Food Co-op, and it also distributed through community-supported agriculture operations. After trying out the Moscow Farmers’ Market, Dave and Debi opted for the newly emerging Dale’s Saturday Market, choosing to become an anchor vendor. While Dave is the main cultivator, Debi used her artistic talents to take care of most of the marketing. She created other products when the summer heat forced her inside, fashioning totebags, hats, soap and greeting cards to supplement market offerings. Diversifying the product line to include some craft items



Debi Robinson-Smith harvests basil at Ravencroft Organic Produce in Viola, Idaho, in preparation for Dale’s Saturday Market in nearby Potlatch.

has helped cultivate customers, Debi said. “Sometimes there’s no

telling what we’ll be able to sell,” she says, acknowledging that many people in the

Online  
www.ravencroftfarm.com

area already have gardens. “Diversifying our product line not only helped us, but it helped the market, making it more interesting.” Debi said her totebags are made of vintage and recycled fabrics, contributing to the couple’s goal of good stewardship. The line of soaps uses ingredients from the homestead, including basil, one of Ravencroft’s main herbs. Once the lush greens, herbs and other produce sprang up, so did the sales opportunities. “We got our organic certification, but then let it lapse,” Debi said. “There was just too much paperwork, making it just about impossible for small farmers.”

The couple works through “buy-local” and grower-certification channels adhering to organic principles. Debi keeps her sights on getting the Ravencroft name out to the public. She works with other growers at the Potlatch market, noting that the growers have learned to work as a team. “We talk to the other vendors and determine reasonable prices so we don’t undercut each other,” she said. “We want to provide good services and help each other out.” Debi reserves her highest praise for market operator Dale Rose. “Dale is some kind of hero, and he’s done a lot for the market with his attractive site, enthusiasm and little petting zoo.”

*Barbara Coyner is a free-lance writer based in Princeton, Idaho. E-mail: barbcoyner@gmail.com.*



Rural Life

‘It ain’t just cows and plows anymore’

High school students take agricultural science to a new level

By DAVE FISHER  
For the Capital Press

TILLAMOOK, Ore. — “Going green” has become one of the more important issues of our time, addressing age-old environmental challenges .

Tillamook High School agricultural science students, under the guidance of instructor Max Sherman, have taken to the lab to come up with creative solutions.

Sherman, who grew up on a dairy farm near Canby, Ore., and is in his 10th year at Tillamook High, begins his classes with homework updates and announcements. From there, it’s to the lab where the real work begins.

“My goal,” Sherman said of his 52-minute class periods, “is to get students in the lab as soon as possible because that’s where they really excel.”

With the new school year under way, Sherman and his students brainstorm ideas for individual and team projects. By spring, those efforts in the lab and in the field begin to bear fruit.

Among the student projects last year: utilizing whey powder, a byproduct of cheese production, for the production of ethanol; creating fuel pellets from methane-digested pulp; improving water quality of one of the most polluted streams on the Oregon coast; and studying the effects of catastrophic forest fires on hydrologic properties of Mazama ash soils in Southern Oregon forests.

“It’s definitely not your traditional ag class,” Sherman said. “We’ve gotten away from the typical test tube lab procedures and utilize industry-standard meters and probes. The accuracy of the results adds credibility to students’ research.”

While the focus is on “green” projects, Sherman said, the more traditional aspects of his ag classes, such as tractor driving, animal husbandry and soil and crop science, are still an important part of the curriculum.



Tillamook High School students learn by doing in Max Sherman’s agricultural sciences classes. From left are Brad Hamburger, Joel Hamburger, Nathan Atchison, Emily Oldenkamp, Olga Lane and instructor Sherman.

But, clearly, as Sherman said, “It ain’t just cows and plows anymore.”

In 2008, THS sophomore Hayden Bush went to the first-ever International Sustainable World Energy, Engineering and Environment

Olympiad, returning with a bronze medal for creating biofuel from Scotch broom. Bush was among 1,000 high school students from 40 states and from 60 countries.

At the time, Sherman and Bush were a little intimidated by the com-

petitive field. Many of the foreign students, Sherman said, were there with the complete backing of their governments.

“Some of these kids work with the leading researchers from their countries,” he said.

However, by the end of the competition, Sherman realized his students could compete and belonged on center stage. This spring four students attended the Olympiad. Sophomores Staci Sherer and Tory Callaway were cited for their efforts in the production of ethanol from whey powder; sophomore Joey Meyer, for making fuel pellets from methane-digested waste.

Of the 65 students enrolled in his agricultural science and technologies classes last year, Sherman said, about a third had an agricultural background having grown up on a farm, worked at the Tillamook County Creamery Association cheese factory or worked on someone else’s farm.

Real-life challenges encountered on the farm are often the catalyst for students’ projects. That was the case with Bush, Sherman said. His parents, who own a dairy farm, were faced with ever-increasing prices for feed, in particular corn, which was being used more and more in the production of biofuel, forcing them and fellow dairy farmers to pay a higher premium for a shorter supply. Bush looked at Scotch broom, a pesky invasive species in plentiful supply, and wondered why biofuel couldn’t be created from it as well, which, in turn, led to his classroom project.

This October, 12 THS students and eight projects are headed to the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis, a significant increase over last year and the year before.

“A big part of the students’ success is they’re starting to be recognized by industry experts,” Sherman said, “with some projects actually influencing policy making.”

In particular, he said, the U.S. Forest Service has taken note of students’ efforts on the effects of catastrophic forest fires and management of old-growth forests.

Meanwhile, Bush’s Scotch broom biofuel production experiment has run into a snag. The liquid produced has a tendency to gel, and Bush and Sherman await test results from Oregon State University to understand why — just one more challenge awaiting a solution in the ag science lab at Tillamook High.

Wool show visitor was no predator

Some wool shows are tougher than others. A couple of years back, my wife and I were manning a booth at a wool show. We noticed a man standing just inside the entry door.

Between the Fenceposts  
Bing Bingham



He was over 6 feet tall and probably weighed 300 pounds plus change. He was built like a retired NFL lineman and dressed head to toe in black motorcycle gang leathers. As he stood by the entry, he was taking in the lay of the land.

Neither my wife nor I am quick to jump to conclusions about a person’s appearance. However, by mutual consent, we watched a man who was massively out of place among delicate wool garments and fabrics. One of his legs weighed more than some of the ladies spinning wool nearby.

Slowly the man made his way around the room. He would stop at a booth, ask a few polite questions, then move on.

He had moved quietly through the whole show and ended up in front of our booth. The first words out of his mouth were a rumbling “Can I say ‘Hi’ to your dog?”

Sitting underneath our table was Tango, our lead stock dog. He’s a full-blood Australian shepherd, a quiet dog that’s the backbone of our canine helpers. Much to the dog’s dismay, he was in town getting socialized. He doesn’t like loud noises or surprises, and he doesn’t much care about the rest of the human race.

The biker must have seen the dog’s rear end sticking out from our side of the table. My wife and I were so surprised by the man’s question that we were stammering our replies.

To our astonishment, the big man dropped to his knees and stuck his head underneath our table. He was face to face with Tango. From our side of the table I could see the dog’s rear end stand up in surprise.

Surreptitiously, I stood up in case I needed to do a quick surgical removal of a dog’s teeth from the large man’s face.

Neither of us is sure what happened underneath the table, but man and dog quickly assessed each other and decided they were the best of buddies.

Slowly at first, Tango’s stub tail wagged back and forth. Soon his entire rear end was shaking in canine joy.

I glanced at the other side of the table and saw the man’s great leather clad butt was wagging with the same pleasure as the dog’s. If the motorcyclist had had a tail, it would have been moving at subsonic speed also.

My wife and I shared a glance over top of our bouncing table while man and dog played underneath. We knew how close we had been to a wreck.

Reluctantly the buddies under the table separated, and the big man got to his feet in front of our booth.

“Thank you,” said the man who loves dogs. “You’ve got a good one there.”

“We know,” we said, sagging with relief that everyone was in one piece.

The large man headed for the door, fired up his Harley and roared off to wherever he was going.

Me, my wife and especially Tango were glad to get home that night.

Bing Bingham is a writer, rancher and storyteller. His tail was wagging when he saw everybody getting along. If you have a story to pass along, contact him at [bing@bingbingham.com](mailto:bing@bingbingham.com).

People in agriculture

Deaths

- **Lloyd Miles**, a Fort Rock, Ore., rancher who served as president of the Lake County Farm Bureau and Oregon Farm Bureau’s Young Farmers and Ranchers group and sat on the FFA advisory committee, has died. He was 41.
- **Ray Novotny**, a longtime Malheur County, Ore., extension agent and advocate for agriculture, has died. He was 88.

Appointments

- **Grady McMahan** is the new district ranger for the Detroit Ranger District of the Willamette National Forest, in Western Oregon. Grady has 30 years of experience in the U.S. Forest Service.
- **Cliff Ohmart** has been appointed vice president of professional services at SureHarvest, a company that specializes in sustainable agriculture.
- **Kristin Swenddal** has been appointed manager of the Aquatic Resources Division of the Washington State Department of Natural Resources. The Aquatic Resources Division is responsible for policies, scientific research and resources to manage 2.6 million acres of state-owned aquatic lands. Swenddal has worked in the division since 2000 as an environmental planner, policy unit supervisor and as assistant division manager.
- **Darin Cramer** has been named manager of the Forest Practices Division of the Washington State Department of Natural Resources. The division enforces rules adopted by the state Forest Practices Board and assists small forest land owners. Cramer has worked for DNR since 2000, in the Aquatic Resources Division and the Forest Practices Division.

Honors

- The Capital Press has been awarded the President’s Choice Award by the Salem Area Chamber of Commerce. The award recognized the newspaper’s

longevity in the market, excellent coverage of the ag community and its community involvement. The award was presented to Capital Press Publisher **Mike O’Brien** by Salem Area Chamber of Commerce President **John Zielinski**, owner of E-Z Orchards.

- **Healing Hooves LLC** was

named the winner in the Natural Resources category of the Green Washington 2009 awards presented by Seattle Business Magazine. Healing Hooves has offered commercial vegetation management services since 2002, with goats and a border collie as the only employees.

- **Larry Falk** has received

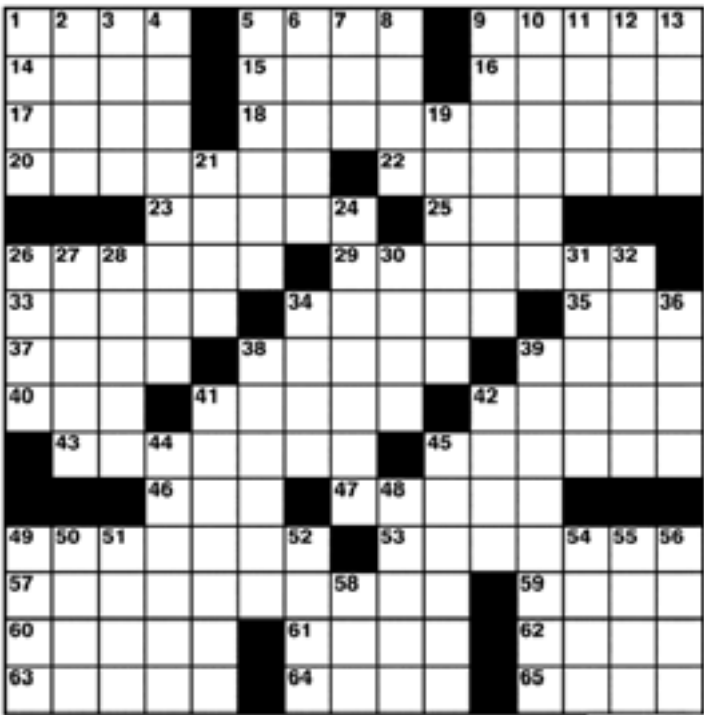
this year’s Pat Atteberry Award. Falk, of Albany, Ore., has served on the Linn-Benton Community College Agriculture/Horticulture Advisory Committee for 15 years, serving as advisory chairman in 2007. Falk is a forage sales representative and agronomist with Seed Research of Oregon in Corvallis.

Newsday Crossword

IN THE WATER by Daniel R. Stark  
Edited by Stanley Newman  
[www.stanxwords.com](http://www.stanxwords.com)

- ACROSS**
- 1 Bogus quarter
  - 5 Moon over Milano
  - 9 Oscar or Tony
  - 14 South African Peace Nobel
  - 15 Starbuck’s boss
  - 16 Dr. Montessori
  - 17 Stein fillers
  - 18 Tub treat
  - 20 More overgrown
  - 22 Makes fizzy
  - 23 Earthenware pots
  - 25 Family nickname
  - 26 Garlic portions
  - 29 Dance steps
  - 33 Visibility obstacles
  - 34 Subarctic forest
  - 35 Ser. deliverer
  - 37 Bouquet
  - 38 Bridal-veil material
  - 39 Ballet leap
  - 40 Longing
  - 41 Sonata movement
  - 42 Chorus member
  - 43 Grandstand cry
  - 45 Mendel’s science
  - 46 Boxing legend
  - 47 Hannah of Hollywood
  - 49 Nonwinning racehorses
  - 53 Dwelled
  - 57 Equinox follower
  - 59 Canceled, to NASA

- DOWN**
- 1 Iffy attempt
  - 2 Humdinger
  - 3 Western Indians
  - 4 Admire to excess
  - 5 Places for brand names
  - 6 Star Trek officer
  - 7 Take into custody
  - 8 “Dancing Queen” band
  - 9 Land named for Vespucci
  - 10 Terre Haute’s river
  - 11 Like \_\_\_ in a maze
  - 12 Ceremony syllables
  - 13 Telegraph
  - 19 Gil Blas writer
  - 21 Seine vistas
  - 24 Heated almost to a boil
  - 26 Bok \_\_\_
  - 27 Did dock work
  - 28 UV blocker
  - 30 Port near Mauna Loa
  - 31 Battleground
  - 32 \_\_\_ Hall University
  - 34 Giant kegs
  - 36 Quite
  - 38 Gym activity
  - 39 Way to go
  - 41 Softens
  - 42 Tops and trains
  - 44 Getting lighter
  - 45 Engenders
  - 48 Ready for battle
  - 49 Senior NCO
  - 50 City of Samoa
  - 51 Where Farsi is spoken
  - 52 Theatergoer’s souvenir
  - 54 Bygone bird
  - 55 Mild exclamation
  - 56 Rotunda’s crown
  - 58 Ames inst.



(See answers in Class 760)