

APRIL 2025

# The GROWERS' GUIDE

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**Idaho farmer**  
touts ‘importance  
of export’ as U.S.  
Wheat chairman

U.S. Wheat Associates  
**Idaho farmer Clark Hamilton with flour bags in Japan in 2016. Hamilton concludes his one-year term as chairman of U.S. Wheat Associates in July.**

**By MATTHEW WEAVER**  
Capital Press

**R**IRIE, Idaho — Clark Hamilton wants fellow farmers to know how hard U.S. Wheat Associates is working on their behalf.

As chairman of U.S. Wheat, the overseas marketing arm for the industry, Hamilton traveled the globe over the last year. He visited U.S. Wheat offices, attending conferences in Asia and South America and meeting customers, hearing from them about the importance of quality and reliability of America’s wheat crop.

“I didn’t realize when I first took this on how

important U.S. Wheat is to exporting our product,” Hamilton said. “It’s been a pleasure to learn what they do on behalf of us farmers.”

Hamilton, 59, raises wheat, barley, potatoes, canola and alfalfa on about 6,000 acres. He farms in Ririe, Idaho, with wife Kristi, sons Jordan and Logan and long-time employee Mitch Landon.

His term as chairman ends July 1.

Hamilton joined the Idaho Wheat Commission board in 2015. Prior to that, he served on the Idaho Grain Producers Association for five years.

“He is a dedicated leader who brings unity, wisdom and energy to everything he does,” said Jamie

**The Growers' Guide**  
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# Goule to exit as NAWG CEO

By **MATTHEW WEAVER**  
Capital Press

In what's being described as a mutual decision, National Association of Wheat Growers CEO Chandler Goule will depart when his contract ends June 30.

"We've both agreed to go our separate ways and wish each other the best," NAWG president Pat Clements, a Kentucky farmer, told the Capital Press.

"We want to thank Chandler Goule for his nine years of dedicated service to the wheat industry," Clements said. "He has been a pleasure to work with. He's very skilled at the political nuances around Washington, D.C."

Clements said he hopes both the organization and Goule can be successful in their next endeavors.

"Chandler's a great guy and deserves a lot of credit for the work he's done at NAWG," he said.

## 'Incredibly rewarding'

"The past nine years at NAWG have been incredibly rewarding," Goule told the Capital Press. "I am confident that NAWG is in a stronger position than when I first started."

Goule said one of his proudest accomplishments has been winning NAWG's Prop 65 case against the state of California, "ensuring that

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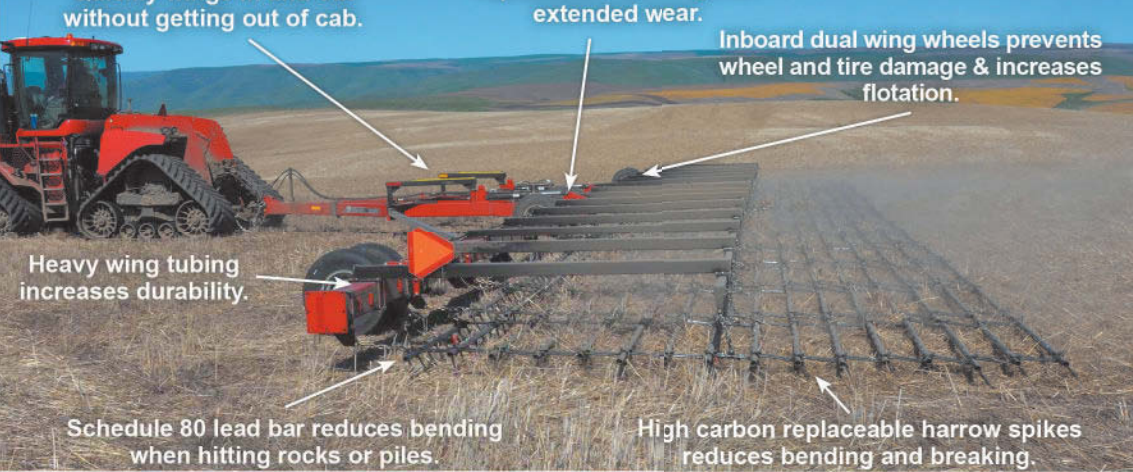
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Matthew Weaver/Capital Press  
**Chandler Goule, outgoing National Association of Wheat Growers CEO.**



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'05 CIH MX255, 4382 Hrs, Front & Rear Duals, Front Weights, Luxury Cab ..... \$75,000



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- WILRICH 2900 PLOW, 9 Bottoms, Spring Reset, IH Bottoms..... \$7,500
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- RAVEN 460 CONTROLLER..... \$750
- RAVEN SWITCHMATE..... \$1,500
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- '11 CASE IH 8120 LEVEL LAND 4016 Sep Hrs., Luxury Cab.. PARTING OUT, 1/2 OF NEW
- '85 IH 1470 4905 Engine Hrs., New Chopper, Good Tires..... \$2,950
- '05 GLEANER R75, 3976S/2749S Hrs, Cummins M11, 4WD, Fine Cut Chopper, Long Unloading Auger, Lateral Tilt, '12 Gleaner 8200-30' Flex With Crary Air Reel & Cart ..... \$60,000
- '04 GLEANER R75, 4465E/3466S Hrs, Cummins M11, 2 Spd Hydro, Fine Cut Chopper, Large Unload Auger Lateral Tilt, '10 Challenger 8200-30' Flex Head & Cart..... \$29,950
- '08 GLEANER R75, 3165E/2582S Hrs, '10 MacDon D50-35' Draper Head & Cart ..... \$65,000
- '91 CIH 1680, 4779 E Hrs, Hillco 2000, CIH 1020-25' Flex Head ..... \$19,900
- GLEANER PICKUP HEAD ..... MAKE OFFER
- '11 CIH 3020-35' FLEX HEAD, Cart..... \$17,500
- '19 MACDON FD135 FLEX DRAPER, 35', CIH Adapter, Top Auger ..... \$69,950
- '13 MACDON FD75-S FLEX DRAPER, 35', CIH Adapter, Top Auger ..... \$57,000
- '99 CIH 2388, 5574E/4502S Hrs, 4WD, Rock Trap, '03 1020-30' Head & Cart, Late Cage & Hydro ..... \$45,000
- '13 CIH 8230 LEVEL LAND, 2771 Sep Hrs, Cross Auger Clutch, Long Unload Auger..... \$89,500
- '17 MACDON FD75, 40', Top Auger..... \$55,000
- '12 CIH 3020-35' FLEX HEAD, Cart..... \$11,950



'13 CASE IH 8230, Hillco Leveler, 3717E/2603S Hrs, 4WD, CIH 2162 40' Flex Draper, Would Separate for \$259,950 w/o Head ..... \$295,000



'11 CIH 2162 FLEX HEAD, Top Auger, Transport Kit .... \$35,000

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- '10 NH BB9080, 29K Bales, Roller Chute..... \$32,500
- '94 JD 920 MOWER CONDITIONER, Rotary Discbine, Flail Conditioner, 9'9" Cut ..... \$5,950
- HESSTON 4650 INLINE SMALL SQUARE BALER, PTO ..... \$7,900



- DARF 917FD RAKE, 17 Wheels, Control Box..... \$9,450
- NH 1068 BALE WAGON, 3184 Hrs, Duals ..... \$7,000
- STEFFEN 5510 BALE HANDLER, Skidsteer Mount, Rotator ..... \$4,500
- FARMHAND BALE HANDLER, Skidsteer Mount ..... \$1,200
- '10 NH BC5070 HAYLINER, Hyd Swing Hitch, Hyd Lift Pickup, Hyd Tensioner, Moisture Monitor, Long Chute w/ 1/4 Turn Tipper, 1 Owner..... \$22,950

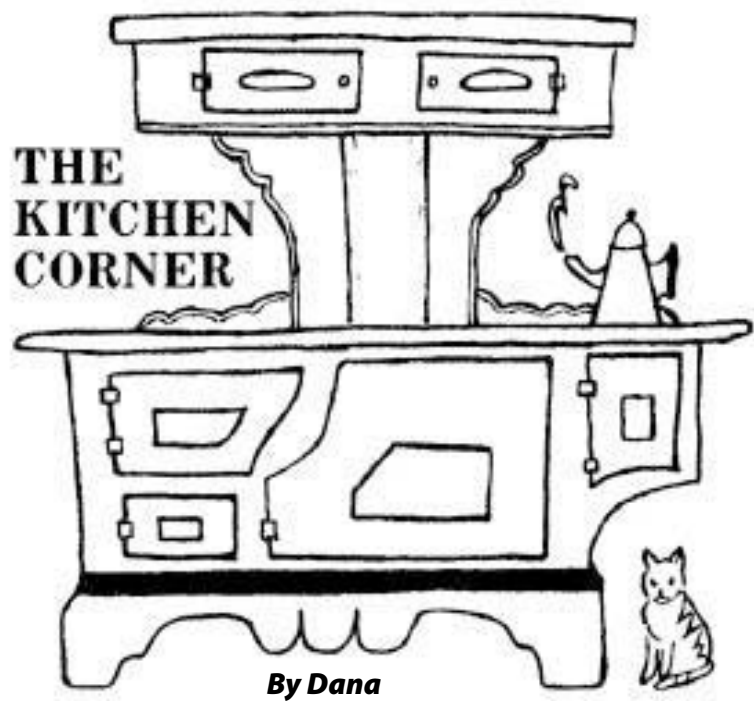
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# Kitchen Corner: Ham, or lamb for Easter

**By DANA**  
On Easter Sunday, the main course is traditionally either ham or lamb. Here are recipes for

both to choose from.

## Easy spiral-cut ham

Iowa Pork Producers Association

- Ingredients**
- One 10-pound spiral-cut, bone-in ham
  - ¼ cup orange juice
  - ½ cup brown sugar
  - 2 tablespoons salted butter
  - 1 tablespoon Dijon mustard

**Directions**  
Preheat oven to 325 degrees Fahrenheit.  
Remove the ham from the packaging and place in a large shallow baking dish.

Cover tightly with aluminum foil and bake for 90 minutes.

While the ham is baking, add the orange juice, brown sugar, butter and mustard to a small sauce-

pan. Whisk together and heat until it begins to boil; remove from the heat.

Remove and discard the foil. Brush the mixture liberally over the ham, giving it a chance to soak into each individual slice.

Bake for an additional 20 to 25 minutes, or until the ham reaches an internal temperature of 140 F.

Let rest for a few minutes and serve warm. Serves about 12 people, depending on the size of the ham.

## Roast leg of lamb with potatoes and lemon

American Lamb Board

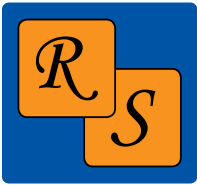
- Ingredients**
- 1 bone-in leg of lamb, (about 5 pounds)
  - 1 tablespoon + 2 tea-

See KITCHEN, Page A7



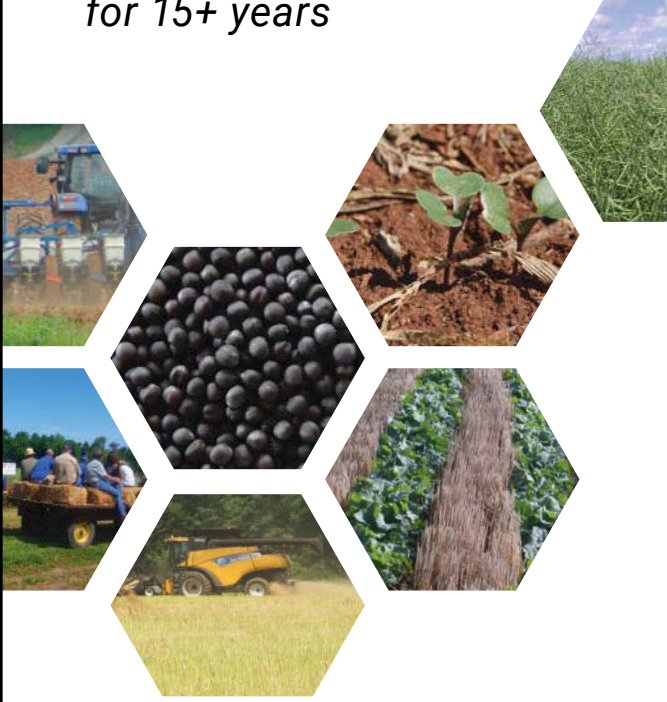
Courtesy Iowa Pork Producers Association

Spiral-cut ham.



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Farmer:

continued from A1

Kress, a Rockland, Idaho-area farmer and vice president for the National Association of Wheat Growers. “Clark is passionate about agriculture and the wheat industry has benefited greatly from his service.”

“Clark brings a pragmatic perspective to every discussion and puts in the effort to understand all sides of an issue before he makes a decision that will impact farmers,” said Britany Hurst Marchant, Idaho Wheat Commission executive director.

Hamilton has proven his commitment to keeping Idaho family farms and the wheat industry “viable, profitable and sustainable” across 15 years of service, Hurst Marchant said.

“The one thing I think Clark cares about the most is relationships — coming to the table, picking up the phone, having a conversation, listening, sharing and being open to the experiences and perspectives of other people,” she said. “That characteristic, probably more than any other, is what has made Clark

See FARMER, Page A8



U.S. Wheat Associates

Clark Hamilton hosts a South American trade team on his Ririe, Idaho farm in 2024. Hamilton will conclude his one-year term as U.S. Wheat Associates chairman in July.

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June 16th - Feeder Special

June 23rd - All Class Cattle Sale

June 30th - Feeder Special

July 7th - NO SALE

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# IT'S THE PITTS: GOOD GRAZIN

By Lee Pitts

Researchers say Americans are dramatically changing our eating habits. For example, did you know that only 15% of our meals require the use of an oven? And the traditional three-meal-a-day regimen is disappearing faster than a cowboy's wages. The fastest growing segment of our new diet is just that... fast food.

Pillsbury coined a phrase to describe this new breed of eaters, they call them "Chase and Grabbits" and they currently represent 26% of all eaters. These are young urbanites who live alone or with roommates. If married, they're childless and both spouses work. They simply don't have the time, money or desire to eat three traditional meals at home.

It's not just cows that graze these days as "grazing" has become the hottest trend amongst those of us who like to eat, which includes most of us.

Grazing might be new to urbanites but it's nothing new to cowboys. I've been on a lot of ranches and I gotta say I've only seen a handful of obese cowboys and I think I know why. Have you ever seen

a Thermos or a lunch bucket tied to the saddle of a real cowboy? I haven't. Most cowboys I know eat two meals a day. They might eat a big breakfast in the morning before heading out for the day or they might skip breakfast and have a big noonday meal.

(Let's get something straight right off the bat. In my neck of the woods the meal you eat at noon is called lunch but elsewhere it's called dinner that we eat at supper, which I've never eaten in my life because I eat dinner. Got it? Good, I'm glad we got that straight.)

I call this trend of eating two meals a day the 'Starve and Gorge Diet'. Neither my wife nor I have ever been fat. My Doctor said that a man my age (73) should weigh what he weighed in high school, which was 155 pounds and that is what I weigh now.

One of the keys to my being thin is I spent a lot of time at my Grandparent's home and my wonderful Grandma, bless

her beautiful soul, was not what you'd call a great cook. Her three favorite ingredients were salt, ketchup and burnt. I swear she sometimes served up meals that would have killed a hog and I attribute this as to why my Grandpa and I were thin our entire adult lives.

As for my wife, she's always maintained a fabulous figure and she does it by watching her carbs and skipping breakfast. And sometimes she even skips dinner if she has eaten a large meal at lunch. She doesn't snack during the day and by following this diet she is in perfect health.

The Indians are also sporadic eaters and they say that we English uninvited interlopers are the only people on earth who look at their watch to see if they are hungry.

They make a good point. How many times have you promptly sat down to your evening meal when you just weren't all that hungry but your wife had set the table for two with food for five and you had to eat every crumb or else your wife got hurt because you "didn't like her cooking?" And the next day when you weighed

yourself the scale groaned.

I used to travel with a guy who lived by the Starve and Gorge Diet and he usually ate only one meal a day that he usually got some poor sucker to pay for. (Me, in most cases.)

Although he was skinny, the proprietors who owned the all-you-can-eat buffets that are popular in New Mexico cringed when they saw him coming and tried to hang up a closed sign before he could enter. One such owner said that my buddy was the 12 best customers he ever had. He's the only person I know who ate the 72 ounce steak at the Big Texan in Amarillo thereby getting it for free.

I thought of trying to do the same thing one time when I was in Amarillo and was so hungry I could eat a saddle blanket but my frugal nature prevented it because if you don't eat the steak and all the fixins in one hour you have to pay for all of it.

***"ALTHOUGH HE WAS SKINNY,  
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STEAK AT THE BIG TEXAN IN  
AMARILLO THEREBY GETTING  
IT FOR FREE."***

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Kitchen:

**continued from A4**

spoons kosher salt

- 1 teaspoon freshly cracked black pepper
- 12 cloves of garlic, (peeled and cut in half)
- 1 teaspoon + 2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil
- 4 pounds Yukon gold potatoes, (quartered)
- 2 organic lemons, (cut into eighths)
- 3/4 pounds shallots, (peeled and cut into quarters)
- 3 teaspoons dried oregano
- 2 teaspoons dried rosemary
- 2 cups vegetable stock
- 1/4 cup fresh lemon juice
- 1/4 cup dry white wine

**Directions**

The night before cook-

ing, use a paring knife to make 24 1-inch punctures around the leg of lamb. Rub it inside and out with 1 teaspoon of the olive oil, 2 teaspoons salt, and ½ teaspoon pepper. Place ½ clove of garlic inside each puncture. Cover and refrigerate the leg overnight.

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees Fahrenheit. In a small bowl, combine the remaining 1 tablespoon salt, oregano, rosemary, and ½ teaspoon black pepper.

Toss together the potatoes, lemons, shallots, 2 tablespoon extra virgin olive oil, and ⅔ of the spice mixture in a large roasting pan.

Rub the leg of lamb with the remaining spice mixture, and place it on top of

the veggies in the pan. Pour the vegetable stock, lemon juice, and white wine into the bottom of the pan.

Place in the oven and

roast until the internal temperature of the lamb leg reaches 145 degrees F, about 90 minutes, using a metal ladle to spoon the

pan juices over the vegetables every 30 minutes.

Remove and allow to rest for 10 minutes before carving and serving.

NAWG:

**continued from A2**

facts and science guided the outcome.”

The 9th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals in 2023 barred California from requiring products containing glyphosate to have warning labels implying the chemical causes cancer. NAWG was the lead plaintiff in the case.

**‘Sorry to see him go’**

“In Washington, we’re sorry to see him go,” said Andy Juris, a Bickleton, Wash., wheat farmer elected to NAWG’s budget committee in January. “He did an excellent job of reaching across the aisle and he had really good contacts.”

Juris credited Goule with bringing in “a lot of funding” for NAWG through industry partnerships.

“That’s something that as CEO, he really stood out in his ability to leverage those relationships he’s built over the years,” Juris said. “He really worked tirelessly in the face of a lot of difficult situations politically and industry-wise in order to do that.”

**Next steps**

NAWG’s leadership has agreed it would be a “good opportunity” to assemble a

forum and gather information from member-states, staff and industry partners about what they would like to see from a new CEO and the general operation and structure of NAWG, Clements said. That forum has not yet been scheduled, he says.

NAWG serves 20 member-states.

Clements declined to give a timeline for hiring a new CEO.

“We want to do it right,” he said. “We’ll do it as quick as we can, but getting it right’s the first thing.”

“I think we’re going to be just fine,” said Juris, the Washington farmer.

To farmers, Juris said: “You’ve never needed a national organization more, in my opinion, than right now. Some of the issues in front of us, it’s never been more important that we have a national voice over in Washington, D.C.”

“I encourage all wheat farmers to stay actively engaged with NAWG,” Goule said. “Your participation amplifies your voice and strengthens our industry.

“As for me, I won’t be going far — where that leads is still to be determined,” he said.

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Clark Hamilton, U.S. Wheat Associates chairman and Idaho Wheat Commission board member, is well aware of the importance of exporting American wheat overseas, even though much of the grain he raises on his farm is bound for local milling.

Farmer:

continued from A5

a valuable and respected leader for many years. He has friends everywhere,

he will talk to anyone and he cares about people, and that, ultimately, is what matters most.”

Hamilton spoke with the Capital Press by phone Feb.

25. The interview has been edited for length and clarity.

**Q: Why go through the U.S. Wheat leadership positions?**

**Hamilton:** Idaho is a state that exports about half of its crop. So does the U.S., so we’re kind of on the same (page). So I always knew the importance of export.

Maybe the irony of that, too, is I’m from east Idaho; not very much of our grain makes it to export, it ends up in local mills.

But I know the importance of exporting to our market and whatever happens here. We’ve got to export this product to keep our industry healthy. That interest alone made me have interest in participating with U.S. Wheat Associates.

I’m fortunate, I have a great team at home. My sons are here running the farm. They make it clear to me, I’m not irreplaceable, so I can participate and do this. It’s been a great opportunity.

**Q: Did you have priorities coming into your year as chairman?**

**Hamilton:** Not really.

My main priority was I wanted to come in and learn and listen, and hopefully continue to build on what’s been done, as far as building these relationships with our customers.

**Q: What is the biggest need you see?**

**Hamilton:** That’s a tough one, because I look back and I think of the offices that have been in place over the years.

We’ve seen big changes coming out of Russia. In the 1990s, Russia was an importer, now they’re the biggest exporter. I think some of these changes will continue.

I think our challenge going forward is to continue to improve our quality. We have two competitors we have to watch pretty closely, that’s Canada and Australia. Continuing to compete with those guys is a main focus and

See FARMER, Page A11

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Capital Press file photo

Three years ago, Chief U.S. District Judge Stanley Bastian in Spokane, Wash., ruled the Canadian agriculture ministry’s patent on Staccato cherry trees was void. He has now reversed that decision.

# Judge reverses decision to invalidate cherry patent

By MATEUSZ PERKOWSKI  
Capital Press

A federal judge has decided against invalidating a cherry patent owned by the Canadian government, reversing a previous legal victory won by three Washington farms.

Three years ago, Chief U.S. District Judge Stanley Bastian in Spokane, Wash., ruled the Canadian agriculture ministry’s patent on Staccato cherry trees was void due to evidence it commercially sold the variety more than a year before seeking intellectual property protections.

However, the judge has now overturned that decision because it was based on “clear error” in light of new evidence.

The earlier ruling relied on a spreadsheet submitted by the three Washington farms accused of patent infringement, which purported to show Staccato was sold commercially a couple years before Canada filed its patent petition.

However, an unaltered version of that spreadsheet now indicates the commercial sales were actually of another cherry cultivar,

not Staccato — creating “genuine issues of material facts” and undermining the earlier findings, he said.

The defendants “falsely represented” the earlier spreadsheet as an original document, even though information referring to another cherry variety had been omitted from it, the judge said.

“It would be manifestly unjust to excuse this behavior at this stage of the proceedings,” Bastian said.

The Canadian agriculture ministry initially filed the lawsuit about five years ago against Van Well Nursery, Monson Fruit and Gordon and Sally Goodwin, all of whom produce cherry trees or fruit near Wenatchee, Wash.

The complaint alleges the defendants have wrongly commercialized an allegedly new cherry cultivar, Glory, that’s actually the Canadian government’s patented Staccato variety.

Last year, the judge determined that Glory and Staccato trees are identical, rejecting the defendants’ arguments that they are

two separate cultivars.

The Glory variety that cherry farmer Gordon

See CHERRY, Page A11

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**'16 ROGATOR 1300B SPRAYER**, AGCO diesel engine, hydro-static transmission, 1300 gal. stainless steel liquid system, 120' Boom, 20 inch spacing, top poly rinse tank, poly chemical inductor, poly direct injection tank, Raven SideKick Pro pump, front fill, Raven Viper 4 monitor, 3,143 Hours.....  
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## continued from A5

The Canadian government claims that Van Well Nursery was only allowed to evaluate Staccato trees,

## continued from A8

**Q: Tariffs and food aid have been in the news. Any thoughts on those potential trade impacts?**

I'm optimistic that if there is negative from these tariffs, it will be short-lived. I'll say that much.

## Q: What's your favorite part of farming?

**Hamilton:** I've been at it a long time. I'm a third-generation farmer, so I grew up not knowing anything different.

But the judge has ruled that any disparities in the DNA between Glory and

So what drives this is this way of life, and love for the land and producing things, and also family. We've been a family business and we remain to be so, so that's part of my passion for being in agriculture.

Anheuser-Busch now is a global company, and it's not Anheuser-Busch, it's InBev. [Belgium-based InBev took over Anheuser-Busch for \$52 billion in 2008.] I think that puts a little different twist on how they buy barley. We're going to compete on the world stage when it comes to our barley prices. That's been a little bit of a change, too.

I don't want that to sound negative, it's just a

**See FARMER, Page A13**

The judge hasn't yet decided how that conclusion affects the Canadian

government's false advertising and patent infringement claims, which continue to be subject to litigation.

\* Prices subject to change without notice, OAC



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## USED COMBINES

|                                                                                     |                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| '24 CASE IH 9250 HILLCO HILLSIDE, 4WD, w/FD245 .....                                | <b>\$830,000</b> |
|  |                  |
| '23 CASE IH 9250 HILLCO HILLSIDE, 4WD w/FD245 .....                                 | <b>\$830,000</b> |
| '23 CASE IH 8250 HILLCO HILLSIDE, 4WD w/FD245 .....                                 | <b>\$800,000</b> |
| '22 CASE IH 8250 HILLCO HILLSIDE, 4WD, w/FD245 head.....                            | <b>\$710,000</b> |
| '21 CASE IH 8250 HILLCO, 4WD, 1220 sep, FD145 .....                                 | <b>\$630,000</b> |
| '20 CASE IH 9250 HILLCO HILLSIDE, 4WD, w/FD145 .....                                | <b>\$575,000</b> |
| '20 CASE IH 8250 HILLCO HILLSIDE, 4WD, w/FD145 .....                                | <b>\$555,000</b> |
| '16 CASE IH 8240 HILLCO HILLSIDE, 4WD, w/40' FD75 .....                             | <b>\$375,000</b> |
| '09 CASE IH 7088 HILLCO HILLSIDE, 4WD .....                                         | <b>\$100,000</b> |
| '08 CASE IH 8010 HILLCO HILLSIDE, 4WD, 3020 .....                                   | <b>\$120,000</b> |
| '07 CASE IH 8010 LL, 2WD duals, 3020 35' .....                                      | <b>\$78,000</b>  |
| '06 CASE IH 8010 LL, 2WD, 3020 .....                                                | <b>\$60,000</b>  |
| '04 CASE IH 2388, Hillco, 4WD 1010 30 .....                                         | <b>\$36,000</b>  |
| '94 CASE IH 1688, Hillco, 2WD, 1010 .....                                           | <b>\$12,500</b>  |
| '16 JOHN DEERE 670 HILLCO, 4WD, 635 .....                                           | <b>\$245,000</b> |
| '14 JOHN DEERE 680 RAHCO, 4WD, 635 .....                                            | <b>\$235,000</b> |
| '14 JOHN DEERE 670 HILLCO, 4WD, 635 .....                                           | <b>\$225,000</b> |
| '04 JOHN DEERE 9860 HILLCO HILLSIDE, 4WD .....                                      | <b>\$115,000</b> |
| (2) JOHN DEERE 9770 HILLCO HILLSIDE, 4WD, 635D .....                                | <b>\$110,000</b> |

SPRAYERS & HAY

|                                                                                                                |                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| '25 GVM X380 PROWLER, 120', many extras, 575hrs ...                                                            | <b>\$580,000</b> |
| '21 GVM T380 PROWLER, 120ft, 16 section, auto glide boom,<br>Hawkeye, Viper 4, 900 & 380 tires, 1650 hrs ..... | <b>\$500,000</b> |
| '24 AGCO MASSEY FERGUSON WR265, 16' header, 422 hrs .....                                                      | <b>\$195,000</b> |
| '20 NEW HOLLAND BB340 PLUS, 18,000 bales .....                                                                 | <b>\$90,000</b>  |
| '08 NEW HOLLAND BB960A TANDEM .....                                                                            | <b>\$19,500</b>  |
| '18 JOHN DEERE WR235, w/16' 500R, 1300 hrs .....                                                               | <b>\$140,000</b> |
| '09 JOHN DEERE 4930, 120', 1300 gal, 4907 hrs .....                                                            | <b>\$100,000</b> |

## USED TRACTORS

|                                                                                      |                  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| '23 CASE IH 580 QUAD, loaded, PTO, 1000 hrs .....                                    | <b>\$600,000</b> |
| '22 CASE IH 580 QUAD, 36", PTO, 6 valve .....                                        | <b>\$520,000</b> |
|  |                  |
| '21 CASE IH 580 QUAD, PTO, 36", 6V, 1870 hrs .....                                   | <b>\$475,000</b> |
| '21 CASE IH 580 QUAD, PTO, 36", 6V, 2800 hrs .....                                   | <b>\$400,000</b> |
| '19 CASE IH 90 NARROW FARMALL, 153 hrs .....                                         | <b>\$68,500</b>  |
| '14 CASE IH 500 QUAD, 36", PTO, 5000 hrs .....                                       | <b>\$240,000</b> |
| '10 CASE IH 535 QUAD, PTO, 30" .....                                                 | <b>\$175,000</b> |
| '07 CASE IH 380 QUAD, 3pt, 36", 12,118 hrs .....                                     | <b>\$75,000</b>  |
| '05 CASE IH 450 QUAD, 30", 10,800 hrs .....                                          | <b>\$120,000</b> |
| '04 CASE IH 450, PTO, 36", 7340 hrs .....                                            | <b>\$130,000</b> |
| '03 CASE IH 450 QUAD, PTO, 36", 10,700 hrs .....                                     | <b>\$110,000</b> |
| '12 CHALLENGER MT865C, PTO, 36", 8000 hrs .....                                      | <b>\$155,000</b> |
| '55 IH 300 S/LOADER STRAIGHT .....                                                   | <b>\$5,000</b>   |
| '81 KUBOTA M7500DT w/loader 5357hrs .....                                            | <b>\$11,500</b>  |

DRILLS

|                                                    |                  |
|----------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| NEW CASE IH 550T .....                             | <b>CALL</b>      |
| 140 BU - AGPRO BOX .....                           | <b>CALL</b>      |
| LANDOLL RENTAL RETURN, 40' double disc drill ..... | <b>IN STOCK!</b> |

TILLAGE & MISC.

|                                                       |                  |
|-------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| NEW CASE IH 475 SPEED TILLER, 31' .....               | <b>CALL</b>      |
| '24 BRANDT 1320XT 36" TRACKED CART LOADED .....       | <b>\$190,000</b> |
| '89 JOHN DEERE 960 CULTIVATOR, 36' liquid tubes ..... | <b>\$7,000</b>   |
| '83 JOHN DEERE 335 24' DISC .....                     | <b>\$10,500</b>  |
| JOHN DEERE 5' MOWER .....                             | <b>\$500</b>     |
| '16 McFARLANE 16-bar 70' harrow .....                 | <b>\$35,000</b>  |
| '89 MATHEWS CO. 240SB 20' FLAIL MOWER .....           | <b>\$6,500</b>   |
| '19 TEBBEN 10' 3PT 540 PTO MOWER .....                | <b>\$5,500</b>   |









Idaho farmer Clark Hamilton “has friends everywhere, he will talk to anyone, and he cares about people, and that, ultimately, is what matters most,” said Britany Hurst Marchant, Idaho Wheat Commission executive director. Hamilton is the current chairman of U.S. Wheat Associates and a board member on the grain commission.

**FARMER:**

continued from A11

different dynamic. There’s other competition out there as far as importing barley.

**Q: From a farmer perspective, does barley still make sense? Are you profitable?**

**Hamilton:** Yes. Especially in east Idaho. We still have — well, I’m going to promote it as the best quality in the world.

For Anheuser-Busch to get barley, they’re going to buy the acres from wheat. So whatever the wheat market does, barley is going to be right there with it.

**Q: Thoughts on general costs versus cost of production?**

**Hamilton:** We’re not in the best shape right now. Equipment especially, I don’t know if we’re going to see any relief.

We’ve seen some relief from fertilizer, but these

prices have declined and continue to go down. It’s not a very profitable time right now.

Given conditions in our world, all commodities are going to be more volatile than we’ve ever seen. I think a grower has to be better prepared to manage the margin and really use risk management, (which is) more important than it’s ever been.

**Q: When you complete your term, what would make this past year a success for you?**

**Hamilton:** A success for the whole industry, not just me, because we’re such a team: If we can look back and say, ‘Look, we increased exports,’ and we’re doing that, exports are up. That’s a bit of a function of the market, we know that, but still, the relationship-building and the education ... I can say that (the South Ameri-

See FARMER, Page A15

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# Hop stocks decline an encouraging sign for Northwest industry

By KYLE ODEGARD  
Capital Press

for brewers.  
**Tariff worries**

U.S. hop stocks were down 6% from a year ago as the industry looks to shed inventory and correct an oversupply.

“We are certainly trending in the right direction,” said Michelle Palacios, Oregon Hops Commission administrator.

“We’ve been producing more hops than the market needs and that has put a large amount of hops in storage,” she added.

Hops are primarily used in beer, but plateauing demand for the beverage and changes in consumer preferences have helped lead to a glut of product.

Palacios said growers across the Pacific Northwest, which produces nearly all of the nation’s hops, have made significant reductions in acreage in recent seasons as a response.

There might be another slight decrease in 2025.

Palacios hopes that the market is stabilizing, which will help growers plan, bring better prices and ensure a stable supply

Tariffs are a concern for the industry, however, as Canada is the No. 3 importer of U.S. hops, Palacios said.

About half of the Pacific Northwest’s hop crop is exported.

British Columbia had a successful hop industry for a number of years, but the Canadian brewing industry is currently dependent on imported hops from the U.S. and Germany, Palacios said.

## Hops data

The inventory of hops held by growers, dealers and brewers on March 1 was 173 million pounds, according to a recent USDA report.

Nearly 87% of hops were at dealer and grower locations, while brewers held 13%.

In March 2023, the nation’s hop inventory was 185 million pounds, followed by 184 million pounds in 2024.

The USDA figures include equivalent pounds of dry hops held in extract or pellet form.



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**2009 JOHN DEERE 9430**, 8990 hrs, Just Ran Through Shop, 4 Remotes, PTO, Powershift, Clean Tractor .....**\$155,000**



**1989 CAT CHALLENGER 65B**, 11,690 Hours, 4 Hyd Remotes, Runs Well..... **\$16,000**



**2012 CASE 450 QUAD**, Good Tracks, PTO, Greenstar integrated autosteer, 2630 and SF3000 included .....**\$190,000**



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**2022 JOHN DEERE 5075E**, 90 Hours, 4WD, 520M Loader .....**\$49,900**



**2018 JOHN DEERE 1795**, 12/23 Row Planter, ME5E, IRHD, Overhauled Last Winter, Surepoint Liquid System, Seed Plates for Wheat, Canola, Beans, and Sunflowers ..... **\$225,000**



**2019 JOHN DEERE L341**, 16,000 Bales, Wide Pickup, Moisture Sensor, Bale Mobile/Assist....**\$61,500**



**2019 JOHN DEERE S-500-8**, New, 8' Cutting Width, 540 PTO ..... **\$15,000**



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Capital Press file  
Growers across the Pacific Northwest have helped reduce the U.S. hops oversupply by reducing acreage in recent seasons.



## continued from A13

**Hamilton:** A little bit too early to tell. The fall wheat's just starting to show. I'm optimistic that the fall wheat survived the winter and it looks pretty good.



U.S. Wheat Associates chairman Clark Hamilton, right, a Ririe, Idaho farmer, visits with African millers in Angola. Hamilton says grower dollars are well-invested in U.S. Wheat and the National Association of Wheat Growers. "The people in our overseas offices are working so hard on our behalf," he said.

**Hamilton:** Their checkoff dollars they invest to U.S. Wheat and NAWG are well-invested. The people in our overseas offices are working so hard on our behalf. They do great work.

**CLARK HAMILTON**  
**Title:** Chairman, U.S. Wheat Associates; Farmer, Hamilton Triple-C Farms  
**Age:** 59  
**Hometown:** Herriman, Utah  
**Current location:** Ririe, Idaho  
**Education:** Bachelor's degree

in plant science, Utah State University  
**Family:** Wife Kristi, children Brandon, Alyssa, Jordan and Logan  
**Hobbies:** Flying an Aviat Husky  
**Website:** <https://uswheat.org>

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## COMBINES & HEADS

### 2022 JOHN DEERE S780

**\$644,999**

MOSCOW

SM GRAIN, PRWD, HILLCO LEVELER, HOURS: 432

| Year | Make | Model | Description                                      | Hours | Ad Price  | Location   |
|------|------|-------|--------------------------------------------------|-------|-----------|------------|
| 2003 | JD   | 9750  | SM GRAIN, PRWD, DUALS, RAHCO                     | 6487  | \$17,999  | COLFAX     |
| 2018 | MD   | FD75  | MACDON FD75 45' PLATFORM                         | N/A   | \$73,999  | COLFAX     |
| 2022 | MD   | FD140 | MACDON FD140 40' PLATFORM                        | N/A   | \$101,999 | MOSCOW     |
| 2022 | MD   | FD240 | MACDON FD240 40' PLATFORM                        | N/A   | \$103,999 | COLFAX     |
| 2011 | CA   | 7088H | CASEIH, SM GRAIN, PRWD, HILLCO LEVELER, PLATFORM | 3387  | \$122,999 | COLFAX     |
| 2020 | JD   | S780  | LL, CORN/BEAN, PRWD, DUALS                       | 1320  | \$364,999 | FOUR LAKES |
| 2021 | JD   | S780  | SM GRAIN, PRWD, HILLCO LEVELER                   | 639   | \$472,999 | COLFAX     |
| 2021 | JD   | S780  | SM GRAIN, PRWD, HILLCO LEVELER                   | 846   | \$523,999 | MOSCOW     |
| 2023 | JD   | S780  | LL, SM GRAIN, 2WD, DUALS                         | 317   | \$562,999 | FOUR LAKES |
| 2021 | JD   | S780  | SM GRAIN, PRWD, HILLCO LEVELER                   | 483   | \$599,999 | MOSCOW     |
| 2023 | JD   | S780  | SM GRAIN, PRWD, HILLCO LEVELER                   | 254   | \$699,999 | COLFAX     |
| 2023 | CA   | 9250H | CASEIH, SM GRAIN, PRWD, DUALS, HILLCO, MD HEADER | 408   | \$724,999 | COLFAX     |

## SPRAYERS & IMPLEMENTS

### 2012 JOHN DEERE 1890

**\$174,999**

TEKOA

AIR DRILL, 40FT, 7.5" SPACING, SEED BOX

| Year | Make | Model        | Description                                              | Hours | Ad Price  | Location   |
|------|------|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----------|------------|
| 2015 | BW   | FIELD PRO IV | BESTWAY FIELD PRO IV 90', 1600 GAL                       | N/A   | \$22,999  | COLFAX     |
| 2023 | DM   | LT42         | DEMCO SPRAY TRAILER, QUICK-DRAW, PUMP REMOTE START HONDA | N/A   | \$124,999 | FOUR LAKES |
| 2015 | JD   | 1890-1910    | AIR DRILL, 36FT, 7.5" SPACING, 1910 CART                 | N/A   | \$179,999 | TEKOA      |
| 2022 | AP   | 4712-SL      | AGPRO 4712-AL NO-TILL DRILL                              | N/A   | \$309,999 | COLFAX     |
| 2019 | JD   | R4045        | SPRAYER, SP, 120' BOOMS, EXACTAPPLY, DUALS               | 1014  | \$399,999 | TEKOA      |
| 2023 | HA   | STS20        | HAGIE SPRAYER, SP, 120' BOOMS, 20" SPACING               | 332   | \$659,999 | FOUR LAKES |

## TRACTORS

### 2022 JOHN DEERE 9RX590

**\$659,999**

TEKOA

FOUR TRACK, 36" TRACKS, PTO, HOURS: 914

| Year | Make | Model   | Description                                           | Hours | Ad Price  | Location   |
|------|------|---------|-------------------------------------------------------|-------|-----------|------------|
| 1993 | JD   | 8570    | 4WD, DUALS, PTO                                       | 12712 | \$23,999  | COLFAX     |
| 1999 | JD   | 9300    | 4WD, FF/RR DUALS                                      | 9458  | \$57,999  | MOSCOW     |
| 2009 | JD   | 8345RT  | TWO TRACK, 3PT/PTO, NEW IVT                           | 8066  | \$128,999 | MOSCOW     |
| 2011 | JD   | 8260R   | MFWD, IVT, ILS, SINGLES                               | 7073  | \$141,999 | FOUR LAKES |
| 2024 | JD   | 6120M   | MFWD, IVT, SINGLES, LOADER RDY                        | 153   | \$148,499 | FOUR LAKES |
| 2023 | JD   | 6140M   | MFWD, IVT, TLS, SINGLES                               | 329   | \$165,499 | FOUR LAKES |
| 2013 | JD   | 8335R   | MFWD, IVT, ILS, SINGLES                               | 6293  | \$181,999 | FOUR LAKES |
| 2013 | JD   | 8360R   | MFWD, IVT, ILS, SINGLES                               | 4988  | \$189,999 | FOUR LAKES |
| 2023 | JD   | 6175M   | MFWD, PDD, TLS SINGLES                                | 376   | \$194,499 | TEKOA      |
| 2015 | JD   | 8370R   | MFWD, IVT, ILS, DUAL FRT, TRIPLE REAR                 | 4583  | \$202,999 | COLFAX     |
| 2014 | JD   | 9510R   | 4WD, PST, TRIPLES                                     | 3413  | \$229,999 | MOSCOW     |
| 2017 | CA   | IH380   | CASEIH ROWTRAC, 24" TRACKS, CVT, 3PT/PTO              | 2588  | \$244,999 | TEKOA      |
| 2021 | FD   | 930     | MFWD, CVT, DUALS                                      | 650   | \$318,999 | TEKOA      |
| 2023 | FD   | 938 MT  | FENDT VARIO 938 MT                                    | 1127  | \$354,999 | COLFAX     |
| 2023 | FD   | 943 MT  | FENDT VARIO 943 MT                                    | 1338  | \$382,999 | COLFAX     |
| 2022 | FD   | 1151 MT | FENDT VARIO 1151 MT                                   | 1972  | \$389,999 | COLFAX     |
| 2020 | CA   | STX620  | CASE QUADTRAC, 36" TRACKS, BIG PUMP, PTO, FRONT TANKS | 2774  | \$394,999 | COLFAX     |
| 2021 | JD   | 9570RX  | FOUR TRACK, 36" TRACKS,                               |       |           |            |





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## TRACTORS



**2009 CASE IH 535 QUAD**, approx. 10K hrs, PTO, seals have been updated, tracks in good condition..... **\$110,000**



**CAT 85C, PTO**, good tracks.. **\$35,000**



**VERSATILE 855**, 7224 hrs, runs good..... **\$25,000**



**CAT CHALLENGER MT835**, 4840 hrs, 3 pt. No PTO..... **\$99,500**



**2012 CAT CHALLENGER MT765D**, 3762 hrs, PTO, 3 pt, 30" tracks in great shape, guide blocks have been bolted on, has complete weight package, spent about \$4,000 on hydraulic upgrades, Trimble CFX750 system. Tractor is in great shape!..... **\$140,000**



**CAT CHALLENGER 65E**, 75% tracks, bolt on blocks, PTO, 12,460 hrs, clean tractor in great condition, well maintained... **\$40,000**

## DRILLS



**GREAT PLAINS NTA3007HD AIR DRILL**..... **\$110,000**

## SPRAYERS



**1000 GALLON STAINLESS STEEL SPRAYER**, 40' suspended boom, Raven control system, new pump ..... **\$8,000**



**SUMMERS 1500 GAL SPRAYER**, 90' booms, 9 sec boom, Raven control system, auto height, foam markers, washout tank .. **\$20,000**

## HAY EQUIPMENT



**TWINSTAR 2030 HAY RAKE** ..... **\$13,500**



**2000 HINER 5600 SERIES, 15' FLAIL WINDROWER**, shred & windrow stalks in one pass, full-width end delivery cross auger ..... **\$15,000**



**1997 JD 9600**, 25' auger header & cart, good tires, complete overhaul yearly.. **\$23,000**



**2014 CASE IH 3152 30' DRAPER HEADER**, excellent shape..... **\$14,000**

## TILLAGE



**14' GREAT PLAINS SERIES II PLOW** with fertilizer attachment, 4' blades ..... **\$15,000**



**52' WIL-RICH QUAD X 7" SHANK**, 5 row cultivator w/fertilizer, lines to every shank, 4 bar rear harrow, good shape..... **\$30,000**



**18' TOWNER DISC**, 20" front blades, 22" rear blades..... **\$1,500**



**40' 10-SEC SPRINGTOOTH ON HEAVY DUTY CART W/MOON HITCH** .... **\$1,000**



**18' SCHAFFER 6680 DISC**, rear blades 22", front blades 20", 12' wide for transport ..... **\$3,500**



**DU-AL 8' BUCKET**..... **\$750**

## COMBINES



**2009 JD 9770 W/2017 30' DRAPER HDR & CART**, 4WD, 3693 hrs .. **\$110,000**



**CASE IH 8010**, 4400 hrs, 4WD, hillside, no header ..... **\$100,000**



**1993 JD 9600 W/30' HDR**, 4930 sep hrs, new tires ..... **\$15,000**



**2005 CADILLAC ESCALADE ESV**, 3rd row seat, loaded, leather, well cared for, 181,000 miles ..... **\$6,500**



**1999 VOLVO 20' BED**, hoist, slip tank, roll tarp. Drop axle, new front tires. Cummins, 10 spd, 435 hp, Jake brake, Pintle hitch ..... **\$60,000**



**1989 PETERBILT, CAT 3406**, 400 hp, 13 spd, Jake brake, 3000 gal stainless steel tank, front, side, rear nozzles, brand new pump..... **\$30,000**



**1995 FORD F350**, 4x4, air compressor, lift gate ..... **\$8,000**



**4,000 GAL STAINLESS STEEL TANK TRAILER** ..... **\$15,000**



**1981 FORD F600 550 GAL FUEL TANK W/HOSE & REEL**, pneumatic pump, mechanic box, 24,417 miles, gas engine, 4x2 trans ..... **\$4,000**



**JD 5670 W/914 PICK-UP HEADER**, serviced annually at dealership, field ready..... **\$90,000**



**1993 GLEANER R72 W/24' HEADER & CART** ..... **\$10,000**



**2010 JD 9770**, 4577 sep hrs, 630 Draper header w/cart, clean machine .... **\$100,000**

## TRANSPORTATION



**1988 IH PAYSTAR SERVICE TRUCK**, 189,000 miles, L10 Cummins, 13 spd, 285 hp, 1000 gal fuel tank, multiple oil tanks, antifreeze tank, hydraulic fluid tank, transmission fluid tank, 10 hose reels, multiple tool boxes, air compressor..... **\$25,000**



**1976 42' WILSON COW TRAILER** ..... **\$9,000**



**1996 VOLVO 20' BED**, hoist, slip tank, & roll tarp. Detroit 60 Series, 9 spd, Pintle hitch ..... **\$35,000**



**2005 FEATHERLITE 2-HORSE WALK THRU HORSE TRAILER**, tack room, dressing room, nice & clean little trailer ..... **\$10,000**



**NH CR9070 W/ MACDON FD70 HEADER & CART**, good shape, field ready ..... **\$120,000**



**2001 MACDON 962 30' HEADER & CART**, adapter fits both JD & Gleaner. Header is in good shape ..... **\$7,500**



## QUADTRACS

- ‘23 CASE IH 580Q**, 1024 Hrs, PowerShift Transmission, 36” Tracks, Luxury Performance Cab, Cold Weather Starting Aid, Engine Brake, Front Bumper Weights, True Ground Speed Radar, RH Armrest, AFS Pro 1200, High Cap Hyd Pump, Power Beyond Supply and Return, Performance Lighting, Dual Beacon, LED Cab Roof Work Lights, 2 Pumps Smart Torque, 6 Electric Remotes, 1000RPM PTO, High Cap Bar w/Diff Lock ..... **\$469,900**
- ‘19 CASE IH 580Q**, 3494 Hours, Luxury Cab, 6 Remotes, PTO, High Cap Hyd Pump, Engine Brake ..... **\$399,900**
- ‘19 CASE IH 580Q**, 5130 Hours, Powershift, Deluxe Cab, LED Cab Roof Work Light Package, Single Beacon Light, RH Window Bar Display, Guidance Ready, Telematics, Cold Weather Starting Aid, Engine Compression Brake, True Ground Speed Sensor, Back-up Warning Alarm, High Capacity Draw Bar, High Capacity Hydraulic Pump, 6 Electric Remotes, Power Beyond Supply & Return, Hi Capacity Bar w/Diff Lock, Undercarriage Scrapers, 36” CAMSO, 650 AG Tracks, Front Bumper Weights ..... **\$234,900**
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# UI names new ag dean

By **BRAD CARLSON**  
Capital Press

The University of Idaho named Leslie Edgar as the new J.R. Simplot endowed dean of the College of Agricultural and Life Sciences.

Edgar now works as associate dean of research at the Washington State University College of Agricultural, Human and Natural Resource Sciences and director of the Agricultural Research Center.

Earlier, she spent three years at New Mexico State University in a similar role, three years at the University of Georgia as a department head and 11 years at the University of Arkansas, where she went through the faculty ranks and served as assistant dean for student programs.

Her candidacy for UI agriculture dean “demonstrated strong experience at land grant institutions, extensive understanding of research and teaching, and varied leadership roles at both department and college levels,” Torrey Lawrence, UI provost and executive vice president, said in a news release.

Edgar, an Idaho native, grew up on a family owned farm in Kuna.

She earned a bachelor’s degree in animal science



Courtesy Washington State University

**New University of Idaho agriculture dean Leslie Edgar.**

from Utah State University and a master’s in agricultural systems, technology and education, also from Utah State. She earned a doctorate in agricultural leadership, education and communication from Texas A&M University.

Edgar’s research focuses on models for effective communication management strategies and on human capital in agriculture. She has published more than 70 peer-reviewed journal articles, secured millions of

dollars in grants and contracts, and earned numerous research and teaching awards — including the National New Teacher Award for Excellence in College and University Teaching from the Association of Public and Land

Grant Universities and USDA.

“I am honored to return to Idaho and lead a college that plays such a vital role across the state,” she said. “As a land grant institution, U of I is uniquely

See UI, Page B3

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**UI:**  
continued from B2

positioned to drive innovation, strengthen rural communities and prepare the next generation of agricultural leaders. I look forward to building on the college's strong foundation and working alongside faculty, staff, students and stakeholders to advance our shared mission."

Edgar will start June 23. She succeeds Michael Parrella, who is retiring June 21 after nine years as dean. Parrella led numerous key initiatives and helped elevate the college of agriculture to a No. 13 ranking in the nation, according to UI.

Parrella's leadership "has left a lasting impact on Idaho agriculture," Samantha Parrott, Snake River Sugarbeet Growers Association executive director, Food Producers of Idaho secretary and member of the UI Foundation board told Capital Press. "His dedication to research, innovation and industry collaboration has strengthened the college and positioned Idaho as a leader. The sugar beet industry is especially grateful for his commitment to enhancing the (UI) Parma Research and Extension Center. We are grateful for his years of service and commitment to advancing the entire agricultural industry."

"As we look to the future, we're excited to welcome Dean Leslie Edgar," Parrott said. "With her strong background in agricultural communications and leadership, we look forward to working alongside her to set a strategic vision that builds on Dean Parrella's success and continues to drive the college forward."

Edgar's experience "has established her as a leader who can motivate and innovate," Idaho Farm Bureau Federation CEO Zak Miller said. The bureau "feels a responsibility and duty to link arm-in-arm with Dr. Edgar to ensure that the momentum of the University of Idaho CALS continues under her watchful eyes." UI and Farm Bureau "have a duty to support and lift

up the farmers and ranchers of Idaho."

"We're excited to work with Dean Edgar," said Idaho Dairymen's Association CEO Rick Naerebout. The association "is excited to see the next dean of the college be a homegrown talent."

The association will watch for a continuation of the good relationship Parrella forged with the industry, and of Parrella's focus on research and extension centers as well as other research-centered facilities, he said.



Courtesy Washington State University

New University of Idaho agriculture dean Leslie Edgar.



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# NAWG leadership tours Portland industry

By **MATTHEW WEAVER**  
Capital Press

National Association of Wheat Growers leadership toured Pacific Northwest wheat industry assets as part of annual training and team building.

It's an opportunity to bring NAWG leaders and staff and foundation officers together, said Gary Broyles, chairman of the National Wheat Foundation, a non-profit partner of NAWG which puts on the annual national wheat yield contest.

The annual meeting was held in Portland March 24-26, providing a chance to showcase the industry's assets there. The leaders toured the Wheat Marketing Center, Tidewater Barge Lines and a Columbia Grain and Pacifcor terminal.

"I'm from Montana; we depend on it because most

See NAWG, Page B5



National Wheat Federation  
**National Association of Wheat Growers leadership and staff toured different aspects of the Pacific Northwest wheat industry in Portland as part of training and team-building programs, including the Wheat Marketing Center.**

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NAWG:  
continued from B4

Montana wheat goes on a railcar somewhere to one of the ports out there,” Broyles said. As farmers, “it’s good for us to know what challenges you have in Oregon and how they affect our business across the United States.”

It was an opportunity to convey more information to the leaders about transportation issues up and down the Columbia River, he said.

“We hear about it, we know that there is a legislative effort to make some changes, but to be there and see it firsthand, I think, just brings a little bit of reality to it,” he said.

NAWG is the primary representative for wheat farmers in Washington, D.C. The foundation does not get involved in ag policy, instead hosting leadership training and educational farm tours for political and agency representatives about “the risky business of farming.”

See NAWG, Page B6



National Wheat Federation National Association of Wheat Growers president Pat Clements, of Kentucky, center, tours Berger Seed during the National Association of Wheat Growers leadership program in the Pacific Northwest.

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**NAWG:**  
continued from B5

“It’s different if you hear it in Washington, D.C. than if you hear it out in the field as you hear a farmer explain some of their challenges,”

Broyles said.

Bayer Crop Science sponsors the leadership program.

**Wheat yield contest now open**

The national contest is now open. Deadline to sub-

mit for winter wheat is May 15 and for spring wheat is Aug. 1. Harvest data is due Oct. 1.

Last year, the contest had more than 500 participants, up from 200 several years earlier.

“That has grown and grown and grown,” said Gary Broyles, chairman of the National Wheat Foundation. “We’re delighted, we just think there’s nothing but upside there.”

The contest emphasizes

quality as well as bushel productivity, he said.

“That component has resonated quite well with buyers, whether it’s overseas or local millers and bakers,” Broyles said.



National Wheat Federation National Association of Wheat Growers leadership and staff toured different aspects of the Pacific Northwest wheat industry in Portland as part of training and team-building, including Columbia Grain’s export terminal.



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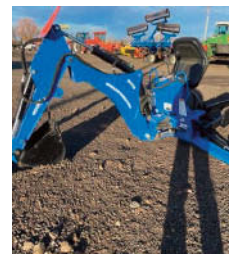
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# Oregon seed growers trek to Bluegrass State

By Mitch Lies  
For the Capital Press

Oregon grass seed growers made their way to Kentucky to participate in a field day showcasing how using annual ryegrass as a cover crop can increase corn and soybean yields in the Southeast and Midwest.

The focus of the Soil Building Field Day, which was held March 13 at Paschall Ag Operations in Murray, Ky., was on the ability of annual ryegrass to break up fragipan, a cement-like layer of soil that inhibits yields on 50 million acres of farmland in large swaths of the Southeast and the Midwest.

Lloyd Murdock, professor emeritus at the University of Kentucky, has been working on breaking up fragipan since 2012, when he assembled a team to address the issue. The team has determined that using annual ryegrass as a cover crop, either alone or in mixes, offers growers their best chance to penetrate and break up the layer, which sits 2 to 3 feet below soil surfaces and can span 2 to 3 feet in width. The layer, which is impenetrable for corn and soybean roots, as well as



Photo by Mitch Lies

**University of Kentucky Professor Emeritus Tasios Karathanasis in a soil pit at a Soil Building Field Day, March 13 in Murray, Kent., explains how annual ryegrass roots can break up fragipan, a cement-like layer of soil that inhibits yields on 50 million acres of farmland in the Southeast and Midwest.**

water and nutrients, can dramatically lower crop yields, particularly in dry years.

Murdock's team has found that the roots of annual ryegrass, grown extensively as a seed crop in Oregon's Willamette Valley, penetrate the fragipan, and the species'

root exudates, or chemicals released by the roots, dissolve the soil layer.

The idea of using annual ryegrass to break up fragipan actually dates to the early 2000s when the late Mike Plumer, long-time extension agent at the University of Illi-

nois, suggested southern Illinois farmer Junior Upton try it on his farm. The practice eventually led to dramatic yield improvements on Upton's farm, which at the time was beset by fragipan. Over time, Upton went from averaging corn yields 15 bushels below

the county average to 30 bushels above it.

Murdock took the next step in the evolution of the practice by studying the effects of annual ryegrass on fragipan in the lab, in the greenhouse and in grower fields.

The Soil Building Field Day on March 13 was the second field day that Murdock and his team have conducted showcasing annual ryegrass. The team put on a similar field day in 2018 at the Princeton Research and Extension Center in Princeton, Kent.

The field day, which was subtitled 'How to Gain 2 Feet of Soil by Dissolving the Fragipan', included presentations from researchers and growers, who provided testimonials on the benefits they have gained from using annual ryegrass as a cover crop, as well as field demonstrations conducted in two soil pits, one in a field that had been under an annual ryegrass cover crop regime for nine years and one, 150 feet apart, that had never been under annual ryegrass.

The Oregon Ryegrass Growers Seed Commission, as well as Saddle Butte Ag, a forage and cover crop seed producer in Tangent, were among the sponsors of the event. The Oregon contingent that attended the event said they felt it went well.

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# Idaho Power, state, reach \$800,000 settlement over Valley Fire damages

By **BRAD CARLSON**  
Capital Press

Idaho Power is paying the state \$800,000 in a settlement for damage from the Valley Fire, which burned 9,900 acres in the foothills east of Boise in October, including in the Boise River Wildlife Management Area.

The Idaho Department of Fish and Game will use the money to restore habitat.

The settlement was disclosed during a March 20 meeting of the legislature's budget-setting Joint Finance-Appropriations Committee.

Idaho Power, a publicly traded utility based in Boise, "reached an agreement in principle with IDFG to resolve restoration claims related to the Valley Fire, subject to finalizing legal terms," Idaho Power spokesman Sven Berg said in a statement. "This voluntary resolution reflects Idaho Power's strong commitment to its partnership with the state." The company "values its relationship with state agencies and will continue to cooperate with them on a number of important initiatives."

The settlement is for habitat restoration in the wildlife management area and is paid without admission of liability, according to a memo posted at the committee hearing. Fish and Game will use the settlement money to complete rehabilitation and restoration work including herbicide treatments, aerial and drill seeding, seedling planting and hazard tree removal.

The settlement avoids costs and delays that would come with litigation, and "recognizes the benefit of putting resources on the ground faster at the Boise River Wildlife Management Area to help restore vegetation, control invasive weeds and improve important habitat for deer, elk and other wildlife," Roger Phillips, Fish and Game public information supervisor, told Capital Press.

Idaho Power and Fish

and Game "have had a long-standing, constructive relationship over the years," he said. "We work to reach agreements that address our respective interests, which we've done again with this settlement."

The burned area is important winter range for deer, elk and other wildlife, according to the memo presented at the budget committee hearing.

The committee endorsed the Idaho Power settlement money as one-time future

spending because the company will deposit the money into a Fish and Game expendable trust fund.

Separately, the committee endorsed a one-time, supplemental appropriation of \$270,000 to cover immediate post-fire work by the department, which does not have money dedicated to fire rehabilitation. Work included reseeding burned range and applying pre-emergent herbicide to prevent establishment of invasive annual grasses

and weeds that often germinate and establish following fires.

Expenses were paid from the trust fund, which the supplemental appropriation restores so the fund can be used as originally intended, said principal budget analyst Janet Jessup of the Legislative Services Office.

The supplemental appropriation covers work in the current fiscal year, whereas the Idaho Power settlement funds will cover ongoing rehabilitation efforts

stretching into the fiscal year that starts July 1, said committee member Rep. Dustin Manwaring, R-Pocatello.

The Valley Fire started Oct. 4 on state land managed by Fish and Game. A power pole's wooden crossarm brace broke and an energized line hit the ground, igniting dry brush and grass at multiple points, according to a state Department of Lands fire investigation report.



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# Fifth generation farmer named Oregon dairy princess

By **KYLE ODEGARD**  
Capital Press

Cydney Stables, a fifth generation dairy farmer, has been crowned the 2025-26 Oregon Dairy Princess Ambassador.

The 22-year-old Gaston, Ore., resident has generational ties to royalty.  
“My mom (Carla Evers Stables) was an alternate state dairy princess back in the day,” she said.

Her aunt, Karen Evers, was the princess ambassador in 1985, and her cousin, Jaime Evers, won that role in 2020.  
Stables wants to share her family’s agricultural values and help Oregonians under-

stand the dairy industry.  
“Farmers truly care about what they do. They care for their cows and they treat them humanely,” Stables said.  
She also hopes to boost the consumption of milk products.

**Gap year**  
Many aspirants to the crown are high school seniors.  
Stables attended Amity High School, where her father, John

See DAIRY, Page B12



Contributed photo, Oregon Dairy Women

Cydney Stables, left, is the new Oregon Dairy Princess Ambassador, while Anna Wismer is the alternate. The women, crowned during a ceremony in early March, will travel throughout the state representing the dairy industry and educating students about farm life.

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# Sued by the EPA, Central Washington dairy hangs on

By **DON JENKINS**  
Capital Press

Yakima County, Wash., dairyman Dan DeRuyter said he wants to stay in business, but he's not sure how long he can fight the Environmental Protection Agency.

Two neighboring dairies, also being sued by the EPA for allegedly endangering public health, have or will close. Liberty Dairy sold its cows last fall. Cow Palace Dairy plans to sell this spring.

That will leave the DeRuyter dairy, started by Dan's father, George, in 1972, as the sole survivor in a 12-year effort by the dairies to satisfy the EPA they are doing



Capital Press file photo

The DeRuyter dairy near Yakima is one of three large dairies that have been in a long-running dispute with the Environmental Protection Agency.

See DeRUYTER, Page B12

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Dairy:  
continued from B10

Stables, is the ag teacher, and she graduated in 2021 during the COVID pandemic. She didn't think that was ideal timing to be a dairy princess

ambassador. "I pushed it back until I was exiting college," Stables said. She's now a senior at Graceland University in Iowa, where she's studying agricultural business, business admin-

istration, communications and economics. Stables is taking a gap year to dedicate more time to the position.

Graduate school

After her work as Oregon Dairy Princess Ambassador, Stables will attend graduate school at Kansas State University. She's aiming for a master's degree in agricultural economics and wants to research direct-to-consumer markets such as farm stands.

"My interest stems from my parent's business," she said. CJD Gardens is primarily a nursery and greenhouse products operation, but the business also sells cut flowers, eggs, berries and other produce at its farm stand and market booths. Stables hopes to work in extension services or higher education.

Lifelong dairy farmer

Whatever her job, Stables

plans to own dairy cows. She grew up working on her family's dairy farm and her grandparents' dairy in Banks, Ore., and enjoyed showing dairy cattle in 4-H and FFA.

The dairy aspect at her parents' property has been scaled back because Stables and her brother, John Stables, 23, are both in college. The family currently has a small herd of six cows.

Alternate dairy princess

Anna Wismer, 18, a 2024 graduate of Gaston High School, was named the Alternate Dairy Princess Ambassador during a ceremony in early March at the Oregon Dairy Farmers Convention.

Wismer is studying agricultural sciences at Portland Community College. She's a seventh generation dairy farmer.

Oregon Dairy Women

The Oregon Dairy Women,

an all-volunteer, nonprofit organization, crown the princess and alternate to promote the dairy industry. Stables and Wismer will spend the next year traveling throughout Oregon, attending fairs, town meetings and public events as representatives of the state's dairy farmers. They'll also visit schools, educating students about life on a farm and the nutritional benefits of dairy products. Stables and Wismer received scholarships for their education.

Outgoing princess ambassador Mackenzie Mitchell, who connected with more than 10,000 students, received \$15,600 for her work. Other state finalists this year were Tayva Forman of Lake County; Bailey McDonald, representing Linn and Benton counties, and Madyson Grimes of Tillamook County. McDonald was honored with the congeniality award.



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DeRuyter:  
continued from B11

everything required of them to keep manure from spiking nitrate levels in the aquifer. "I try to be optimistic, but there are a lot of dark clouds, and a lot of uncertainty. I really don't know how to feel at this point," DeRuyter said March 25. The Yakima Valley has numerous sources of nitrates, including farms and other dairies. The EPA singled out for special attention a cluster of large dairies more than a dozen years ago. DeRuyter and the other dairies signed an agreement with the EPA in 2013 committing to minimize manure seeping into groundwater. The EPA sued in June claiming the dairies broke the agreement and is seeking civil penalties of up to \$29,154 a day. The dairies deny the allegations. No court has thoroughly

sorted out the conflicting claims, but U.S. District Judge Thomas O. Rice in Spokane issued a preliminary injunction in December, finding the EPA was justified in claiming public health was in imminent danger. Rice ordered the dairies to test more wells and provide residents downgradient of the dairies with drinking water. The dairies say they already are testing wells and supplying drinking water. The dairies are appealing Rice's ruling to the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. The EPA and dairies recently agreed to a truce until Aug. 11 to see whether they can work out a settlement. DeRuyter said he doesn't know whether the Trump EPA will view the case differently than the Biden EPA. "I don't know about that. All I'm looking for is to be treated fairly," he said. "Being treated fairly would

be acknowledging what we've done." DeRuyter said his dairy, which milks 5,300 cows, has spent more than \$10 million to fulfill its agreement with the EPA and has endured far more scrutiny than other dairies. "I'm not sure what else we can do. We're already done everything they've asked us to do," he said. "If we are to stay in business, we need to be treated like any other dairy farm." When the Cow Palace closes the Yakima Valley will lose more than 100 jobs. DeRuyter said he also has more than 100 employees. Many have worked at the dairy for more than 20 years, he said. "The people I work with are very loyal to me, and I am loyal to them. I don't want to give up, not with all the blood, sweat and tears these guys have put into it."

Kentucky:  
continued from B8

"I was really impressed with the difference between the two soil pits," said KC Coon, chair of the Oregon Ryegrass Growers Seed Commission and a seed grower from Brownsville. "It is amazing to see how much better the soil quality was in

the pit under the annual ryegrass than in the pit where it had never been used." "I liked the fact that it wasn't a super polished event," said Orin Nusbaum, a member of the commission and a grower from Monroe. "It was very farmer friendly and included a lot of real-world testimonials from folks that have used

annual ryegrass." "That went great," said Bryan Ostlund, administrator of the Ryegrass Commission. "It had good attendance, probably the better part of 100, and it is interesting to see the level of interest and just how this story has kind of evolved. It seems like it is just finally getting a foothold down there."



# UI's Miito, CAFE research dairy, take on emissions

Capital Press staff

The University of Idaho's dairy-anchored Center for Agriculture, Food and the Environment taking shape near Rupert was a draw for new UI Extension air quality specialist Gilbert Miito.

Idaho CAFE will be the largest research dairy in the U.S. when it starts milking operations near Rupert in early 2026, according to UI. The facility will have 400 cows initially and grow to capacity gradually, accommodating up to 2,500 animals.

The second phase of construction is underway, including maternity and research barns, commodity storage, lagoons, and a building with office and classroom space.

“There is a lot of buzz around dairy farms and emissions, so there is a lot of opportunity around that,” Miito said in a news release. “The fact that we have CAFE as a research center, I think that improves our chances of getting a lot of these research grants.”

The Twin Falls-based Miito, who started Jan. 6 with UI, grew up on a dairy near Masaka, Uganda.

He researched manure management and emissions as a doctoral student at Washington State University and as a University of Missouri postdoctoral researcher he worked with manure management systems. He worked for a California company for which he designed, built and supervised assembly of biological treatment systems that filter liquid dairy waste.

Miito has begun gathering baseline emissions data from the CAFE site, according to UI. His work will focus on identifying best practices for managing, transporting, storing and using manure to minimize emissions of greenhouse gases such as methane.

He has teamed up with USDA researchers in Kimberly to aid in federal dairy emission studies. Some projects have involved

working with commercial dairymen. He has helped USDA research emissions from manure spread over research plots and from lagoon water applied via sprinkler pivots.

In a whole-farm study, researchers are “getting to understand all of the processes on a dairy farm and how they contribute to emissions,” Miito said. A goal is to “understand the hot spots on a dairy farm and then do some mitigations to test.”

Most dairy emissions come from the combination of enteric emissions — essentially methane and ammonia emitted through the mouth, resulting from fermentation of feed in the rumen, according to UI — and from dairy manure.

Miito plans to evaluate various feed additives to change cows' biochemistry to minimize enteric emissions. He intends to study a few options to minimize emissions from lagoons — such as trapping emissions and flaring them off, and adding sulfuric acid to chemically change lagoon water and reduce ammonia emissions.

Separating solid and liquid waste is another proven strategy to reduce emissions, according to UI. He intends to study the environmental benefits of more frequent cleaning of solids from dairy lagoons, and the use of improved technology for separating dairy liquids and solids.

Miito will research how the designs of barns and ventilation systems affect emissions, and benefits from regular cleaning of pens.

He plans to advocate for the industry and communicate about its realities to the public, according to UI.

“I am a link between the science and all of the noise out there, so I can easily tell whoever is making that noise,” Miito said. “Hey, this is how the numbers look. We need the dairy production. This is a byproduct and this is how we can deal with it.”



Courtesy Gilbert Miito

**University of Idaho Extension air quality specialist Gilbert Miito.**

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# Federal policy uncertainty lowers farmer sentiment

By KYLE ODEGARD  
Capital Press

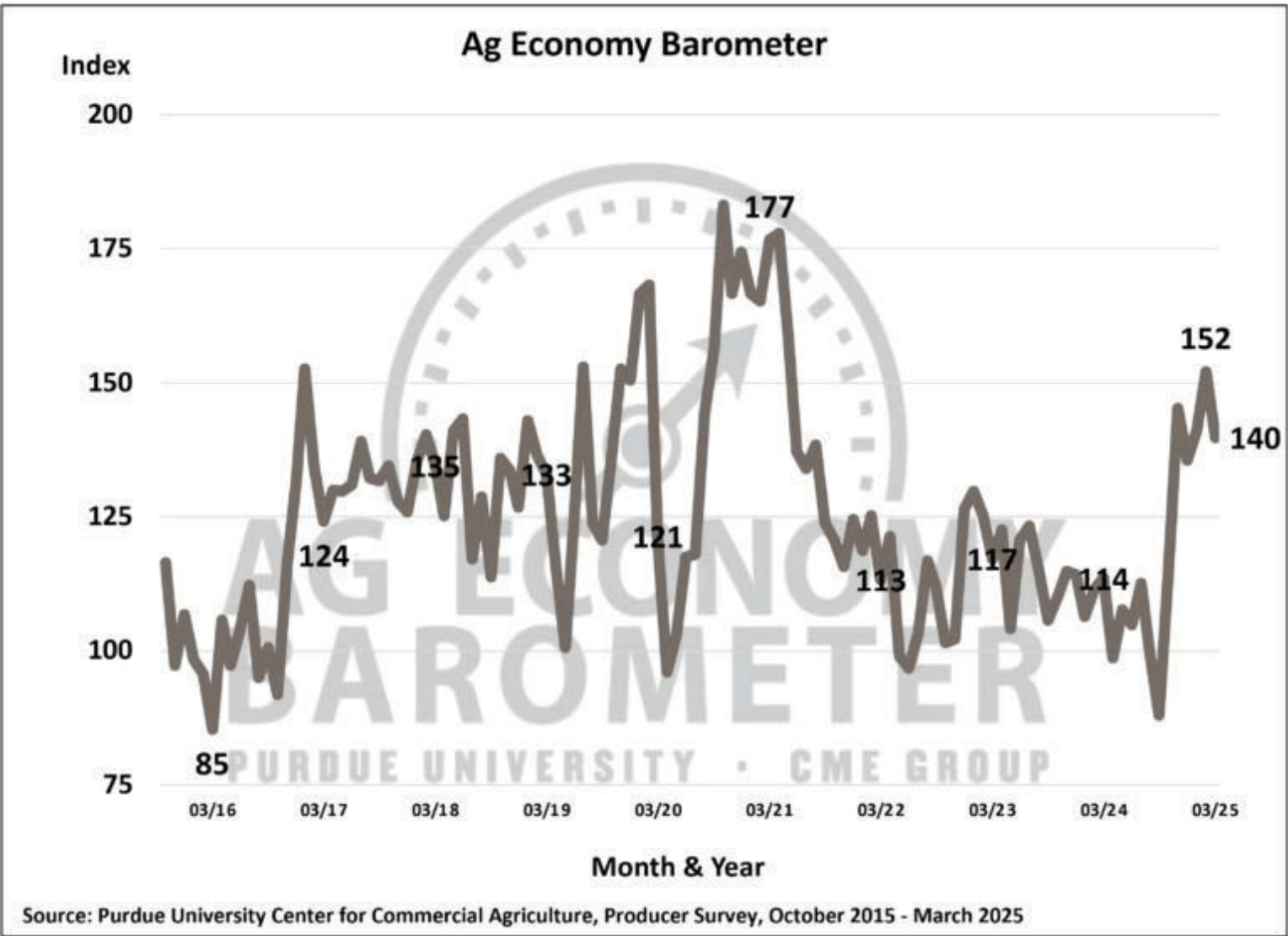
Producer sentiment surged with the election of President Donald Trump, but dipped in March due to rising policy uncertainty regarding U.S. exports and trade, according to the Purdue University/CME Group Ag Economy Barometer.

Still, confidence remains relatively high compared to the past decade and much stronger than before the election.

The barometer hit 140 in March, down from 152 in February, as farmers' view of the future was less optimistic.

"That was still 25 points higher than it was back in October," said James Mintert, Purdue emeritus professor of agricultural economics at Purdue University, in an online breakdown of the report.

Falloffs in key crop prices since mid-February also were an important factor in farmers' sentiment change.



Courtesy image, Purdue University/CME Group

The Purdue University/CME Group Ag Economy Barometer hit 140 in March, down from 152 in February, as farmers' view of the future was less optimistic.

**Export concerns** often correlated with robust farm incomes. Historically, exports have been an important source of demand and strong exports have

expectations over the next five years. Farmers initially were optimistic exports would grow, but that has continued to drop since 2021.

See FARMER, Page B16

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# Cow Palace dairy in Washington, under fire from EPA, to close

By **DON JENKINS**  
Capital Press

The Cow Palace dairy in Yakima County, Wash., embroiled in a prolonged battle with the Environmental Protection Agency for allegedly polluting groundwater, will close. Owner Adam Dol-

sen, whose grandfather started the dairy in 1972, said March 12 that closing the dairy is the hardest decision he's ever made, but he couldn't see how he could ever satisfy the EPA. "It's really a frustrating group to work with. Their goal is to drive us out of business," Dol-

sen said. "I'm spending a ton of money on attorneys every month, and I don't know where this ends." The dairy plans to close in May, putting more than 120 employees out of work. The dairy will sell its 7,500 milking cows. Washington State

Dairy Federation policy director Jay Gordon said the EPA placed unreasonable demands on the dairy. "I hope the EPA is happy," Gordon said. "It's sad. It's really, really sad," he said. "They are one of the most amazing dairy families in the state."

The EPA declined to comment. The dairy has been dogged by EPA allegations for more than a decade. Cow Palace and three other dairies entered into agreement with the EPA in 2013 to contain manure. See COW, Page B16



A manure lagoon is lined at the Cow Palace dairy in this file photo. The dairy is closing after a long-standing dispute with the EPA. Capital Press file photo

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Farmer:

continued from B14

and ranchers saying they thought shipments to foreign countries would fall.

That almost matched the percentage of producers who expected exports to rise.

“Producers’ outlook for ag exports, which predominantly have been a real source of growth in the U.S. ag sector for decades, really shifted,” Mintert said.

Trade policy

Since 2022, barometer surveys have also questioned producers about which policies or programs will be most important to their ag operations during the next five years.

Prior to the election, farmers were more concerned about interest rate policy than trade. Since Trump’s win, concern about trade policy has jumped, with 43%

of responders citing it as the most important policy or program.

About 13% of farmers pointed to interest rate policy as most important since the election.

Trade war compensation

The March barometer survey asked farmers about whether they thought something resembling 2019’s Market Facilitation Program would be available to compensate for lower output prices attributable to a trade war.

About 65% of respondents said they think a similar program would be likely (52%) or very likely (13%).

In a related question, 74% of farmers in March said passage of a new farm bill was very important (49%) or important (25%) to them.

Historical perspective

Though the Ag Econ-

omy Barometer slipped in March, that’s the second highest level for the month in at least 10 years.

In March 2021, the barometer was near its high for the past decade at 177.

The barometer was 113 in March 2022, 117 in March 2023 and 114 in March 2024.

Financial performance

A component of the report, the Farm Financial Performance Index, also fell in March, dropping 8 points to 102. That level suggests producers expect their financial performance to slightly exceed 2024.

The financial outlook, however, was likely beefed up by strong expectations from ranchers, which helped offset weaker projections from crop growers.

Cow:

continued from B15

The EPA filed a new lawsuit last June accusing the three surviving dairies of not doing enough to keep excessive nitrates from seeping into the aquifer. Liberty Dairy closed in October.

U.S. District Judge Thomas Rice ruled in December elevated levels of nitrates in drinking water were an “extreme danger” to public health and ordered Cow Palace, Library and DeRuyter dairies to do more to test area wells for nitrates and supply drinking water to residents.

The dairies argued they had already spent millions of dollars to comply with their agreement with the EPA.

“When we read that decision we thought about how every lawsuit will go back to

Rice,” Dolsen said. “We knew we would just continue to lose.”

The dairies appealed Rice’s ruling to the 9th Circuit Court of Appeals. The EPA and dairies recently agreed to stay proceedings until at least August to give the sides time to negotiate a settlement.

Dolsen said he felt like further negotiations would put in the same spot he’s been in. “I just feel like I’m setting myself up for another eight- to 10-year agreement,” he said. “Where we are right now, it’s not a viable situation.”

Save Family Farming, a Washington advocacy group, issued a statement criticizing the EPA. “EPA Region 10 attacks have now claimed three of the four dairies they began targeting over a decade ago,” the statement read.

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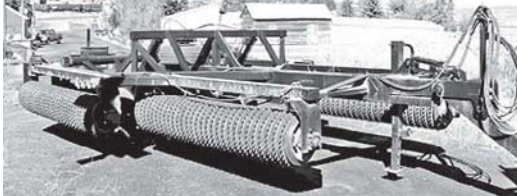


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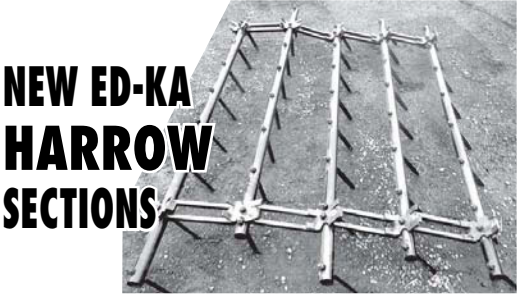
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# UI's Miito, CAFE research dairy, take on emissions

Capital Press staff

The University of Idaho's dairy-anchored Center for Agriculture, Food and the Environment taking shape near Rupert was a draw for new UI Extension air quality specialist Gilbert Miito.

Idaho CAFE will be the largest research dairy in the U.S. when it starts milking operations near Rupert in early 2026, according to UI. The facility will have 400 cows initially and grow to capacity gradually, accommodating up to 2,500 animals.

The second phase of construction is underway, including maternity and research barns, commodity storage, lagoons, and a building with office and classroom space.

"There is a lot of buzz around dairy farms and



Courtesy Gilbert Miito

## University of Idaho Extension air quality specialist Gilbert Miito.

emissions, so there is a lot of opportunity around that," Miito said in a news release. "The fact

that we have CAFE as a research center, I think that improves our chances of getting a lot of these research grants."

The Twin Falls-based

Miito, who started Jan. 6 with UI, grew up on a dairy near Masaka, Uganda.

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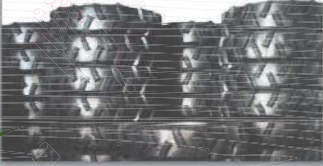
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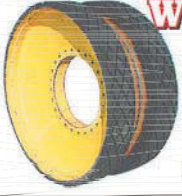
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Tarkan Gurkan. Courtesy Chobani

Idaho Gov. Brad Little, center, with Chobani founder and CEO Hamdi Ulukaya and CFO

# Chobani announces major expansion in Idaho

**By BRAD CARLSON**  
Capital Press

TWIN FALLS, Idaho — Chobani on March 19 broke ground on a big expansion of its Twin Falls, Idaho, food production plant.

The approximately \$500 million project will add over 500,000 square feet to the existing facility and increase production by 50%, according to the Norwich, N.Y.-based company — which manufactures yogurt, oat milk and creamers, and in 2023 acquired coffee roaster La Colombe.

The expansion is expected to create at least 160 new jobs, “strengthen Idaho’s dairy industry and

ensure that the food made here reaches even more families across the country,” according to a news release.

“Employing more than 1,200 people earning wages almost 12% higher than the regional average, this investment will continue to fuel the local economy and shape the future of food.”

A protein-related innovation — representing an expansion into a new product segment and technology — is the focus of the project, president and chief operating officer Kevin Burns said in a company-supplied video from the groundbreaking.

The expanded Twin

Falls plant will span 1.6 million square feet and feature 24 production lines.

Chobani’s announcement “symbolizes shared goals and a mutual commitment to excellence,” Twin Falls Mayor Ruth Pierce said. Impacts from the present operation and future expansion “will continue to ripple through our regional economy in support of our farmers, and other partners in the dairy and food manufacturing industries.”

Idaho ranks third in the U.S. for milk production. Chobani expects to purchase nearly 2 billion pounds of milk from Idaho dairy farmers this year,

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# Columbia River Treaty negotiations 'currently paused'

By **MATTHEW WEAVER**  
Capital Press

Negotiations between the United States and Canada to modernize the Columbia River Treaty have paused, a top British Columbia official said recently.

The two countries reached an agreement in principle in July 2024. The treaty focuses on coordinated power operations and flood-risk management between the two nations.

Now, discussions are “currently paused” while the Trump administration conducts a “broad review” of international

engagement, Adrian Dix, Minister of Energy and Climate Solutions in British Columbia, said during a March 26 update.

Such reviews are generally fairly normal for a new administration, Dix noted, adding that President Donald Trump and his administration have not formally suspended treaty negotiations.

“Some of this is normal, and what one might expect,” Dix said.

But the Trump administration’s “vicious anti-Canadian attacks” on Canadian sovereignty and tariff threats have raised concerns, he said.

“We are preparing for any action the American government might take and will continue to defend Canadian and British Columbia interests,” Dix said.

The U.S. Department of State leads the U.S. team in negotiations with Canada. The department declined to comment.

### Remains in effect for 10 years

Dix cited speculations about treaty negotiations in the context of the tariffs and trade dispute.

“Some have suggested that the treaty is a bargaining chip

or that Canada should terminate the treaty as a retaliatory move,” Dix said.

If Canada were to issue a notice to terminate the treaty, the existing treaty would remain in effect for 10 more years unless both countries agree to terminate the agreement within that time frame, he noted. The same goes for termination of the treaty on the American side.

In the next 10 years, elections are scheduled to take place in 2028 and 2032 in the U.S. and 2025, 2029 and 2033 in Canada, Dix added.

“Canadian action to termi-

nate the treaty would have little effect on the current dispute and would obviously involve losses on all sides,” he said.

“But let’s be clear, we’re going to defend our interests, even if terminating the treaty as one of those tools is not effective in our current dispute,” Dix added.

The Canadian government is committed to working with the U.S. when they are ready to re-engage and reach agreement on a new modernized treaty that reflects the agreement in principle and provides more balanced benefits to both countries, Dix said.

## County:

continued from C4

month to Brown, seeking to head-off a lawsuit.

By not impeding federal immigration officials, a convicted sex offender was recently removed from the county, Ard told Brown. “Your office, however, apparently seeks to end such cooperation, allowing sex offenders to freely roam the streets of the state with more impunity than lawful citizens,” Ard charged.

Nearly all Democrats supported the sanctuary law, passed in 2019 and titled the “Keep Washington Working Act.” The law received few votes from Republicans, including those who represented Eastern Washington districts whose economies rely on agriculture.

Federal law forbids states from preventing local law enforcement agencies from sending information to federal immigration officials, Ard said in the letter to Brown. “Adams County has obligations under federal law that directly conflict with the sanctuary state statute,” he wrote.

According to the lawsuit, federal law doesn’t obligate the sheriff’s

office to collect information about immigration status, or tell federal authorities when suspects will be released or how to contact them.

The Trump administration has sued Illinois and New York over their sanctuary laws. Ard suggested Brown wait to see how those cases came out before suing Adams County. Efforts to reach Ard and Wagner for further comment were unsuccessful.

Adams County was sued in January in the U.S. District Court for Eastern Washington by the Northwest Immigrants Rights Project on behalf of Serafin Rangel-Sembrano.

Sheriff’s deputies arrested Rangel in 2023 on suspicion of possessing a stolen car. He was released the next day by a judge, but was allegedly delivered by a sheriff’s deputy to U.S. Border Patrol agents.

Rangel, who was not prosecuted for possessing a stolen car, alleges the sheriff’s office violated his constitutional rights as well as the state’s sanctuary law.

The sheriff’s office denies the lawsuit’s allegations.

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issued a statement supporting Adams County. “America First Legal

is proud to stand with Adams County and will fight vigorously to pro-

tect it from this bullying,” legal counsel James Rogers said.

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# Hike OK'd for Idaho alfalfa seed commission assessment cap

By **BRAD CARLSON**  
Capital Press

The Idaho legislature approved a doubling of the Alfalfa and Clover Seed Commission's assessment cap and a change to the board's composition.

Fewer acres and rising costs drive the need for House Bill 173, supporters said.

Proceeds from the assessment fund research, promotion and education. In statute, the assessment is a quarter cent per pound of clean seed sold, and can be increased up to the current cap of a half cent with approval from the State Department of Agriculture director. The director approved increases to four tenths of a cent in 2008, four and a half tenths in 2016 and a half cent in 2019.

HB 173 raises the cap to one cent as of July 1.

The commission board now comprises six grower members and a seed dealer member. The bill calls for a



Courtesy WSDA

**HB 173 would raise the cap on the Idaho alfalfa seed assessment to one cent as of July 1.**

representative of the University of Idaho College of Agricultural and Life Sciences to replace a grower.

The university representative likely will come from the UI Parma Research and

Extension Center, said Rick Waitley, commission administrator and Idaho Alfalfa and Clover Seed Growers Association executive director.

Idaho has fewer growers and acres, and finding people

to serve on the commission can be difficult, he said.

The assessment would not be one cent per pound, but would “have that ceiling,” Waitley said.

The commission would decide the assessment, to take effect for the 2026 crop season, he said. The higher assessment limit “should carry them for several years.”

Idaho remains a major producer of alfalfa seed but has 20-30% of the growers it had two to three decades ago, said Kuna-area farmer and dairy operator Dave Reynolds, who grows alfalfa seed and hay.

The industry in recent years has been breeding for hay quality but not necessarily to optimize seed yield, said Reynolds, who serves on the National Alfalfa and Forage Alliance board.

And in the Treasure Valley of southwest Idaho, soil types vary and competition from other crops is strong, he said.

Acres are shifting to locations with fewer cropping choices, such as Wyoming, Montana and Canada, Reynolds said. Eastern Idaho remains a major hay production region for similar reasons.

Hay acres have dropped a bit, for reasons including less research compared to some crops such as corn and soy-

beans, he said.

The commission pays NAFA, which has helped to boost research funding for the industry and played a role in making new insurance products available, Reynolds said. The commission also financially supports a Western regional group and entomology work at UI-Parma.

Commission support to NAFA and universities helps the minor-use crop — with acreage typically too low to attract investment by pesticide companies — secure approval for chemicals, said Paul Rasgorshek, a major southwest Idaho alfalfa seed producer who leads the growers association.

Hay as a component of the dairy and beef cattle feed ration has been reduced substantially, a factor in the reduction in alfalfa seed acres, he said. Silage corn is a bigger portion of the ration, particularly in dairies, and more producers are incorporating grasses, triticale and barley.

“And we deal with imports of seed,” Rasgorshek said.

Alfalfa seed “is still a valuable industry” in Idaho, where key infrastructure includes seed development and cleaning companies, Reynolds said. “We don’t want to lose it.”



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# Meat sales hit record high in 2024

By **KYLE ODEGARD**  
Capital Press

Meat department sales at grocery stores hit a record \$104.6 billion in 2024, up 4.7% over the previous year, and pounds sold increased 2.3% to 22.8 billion, according to a new report.

Frozen meat sales rose 6% to \$14 billion and deli-prepared meat added another \$6.4 billion, up 10.8%

Nearly 98% of U.S. households purchase meat and their average annual spend reached \$871, according to the Power of Meat report.

The analysis was released by the Food Industry Association and the Meat Institute at the annual Meat Conference March 24.

In the report, the term meat does not include seafood.

## Delivering value

Average consumers purchase meat more than once per week, keeping meat the largest fresh department in grocery stores.

Beef, especially ground beef, and lamb performed well in 2024. Dinner sausage, with innovation in species, flavors and formats, drove pound growth for processed meat.

“As shoppers’ definition of value has expanded to include price, quality, relevance, convenience and experience, they are including meat in 90% of home-cooked dinners and looking for various options to suit their schedules, tastes and interests,” said Rick Stein, Food Industry Association vice president of fresh foods.

“Whether shoppers are looking for the convenience of new ground meats or incorporating semi-prepared options in their meal prep, the meat department delivers,” Stein added, in a news release.

## Inflation concerns

While grocery prices increased modestly in the past year, inflation remains a concern.

Many consumers

changed purchasing habits, buying different meat cuts and switching channels and brands to keep costs low.

Still, 96% of shoppers are open to spending more on meat, particularly during special occasions and holidays. Some splurge when replacing a restaurant meal.

Efforts to balance budgets and cook more meals at home led to momentum for the meat department in 2024.

## Other purchase factors

Price remains the primary factor in meat purchases, but quality, prior experience, brand and nutritional or production claims also play key roles.

Half of consumers feel positive about animal raising practices. “Providing transparency and thus reassurance about sourcing and animal welfare could boost meat purchases,” the report stated.

Organic meat sales surpassed \$3 billion for the first time in 2024, and were up 14.3% over the previous year. Organic beef sales were up nearly 26%.

Antibiotic-related claims and grass feed beef also performed well.

More than two-thirds of Americans believe the enjoyment, social connections and experiences food brings are just as or more important than nutrition.

The report suggests leveraging the strong emotional connections of meat as the centerpiece to Sunday dinners, cookouts and holiday meals.

Hybrid meals continued to rise in popularity, with residents combining dishes cooked from scratch with semi- and fully-prepared items.

Despite cutting back, people still seek restaurant-like convenience, which led to growth for grocery deli prepared meals and meat.

Plant-based meat alternative sales declined 6.7%, hitting \$1.07 billion.

The portion of Americans trying to consume less meat is at its lowest in many years, at 22%.



Efforts to balance budgets and cook more meals at home led to momentum for the meat department in 2024. Despite concerns about inflation, shoppers were willing to splurge for special occasions.



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# Rollins orders more timber output, faster fire risk reduction

By **BRAD CARLSON**  
Capital Press

Agriculture Secretary Brooke Rollins in an April 3 memo established an emergency situation determination that clears the way for increased timber production and faster fire risk reduction work on more than 112.6 million acres of National Forestry System lands.

Related actions “will support improving the durability, resilience and resistance to fire, insects and disease within forests and grasslands” across the system, she said in the secretarial memo.

Much of the land the determination impacts is in central and northern Idaho, western Washington and Oregon, northeast Oregon, northern and eastern California and parts of the interior West, according to a map issued with the memo and a USDA news release.



Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins

The memo and emergency determination — which divide affected lands into fire risk, insect and disease risk and forest health categories — follow

President Donald Trump’s March 1 executive order to expand American timber production by 25%.

“Healthy forests require work, and right now, we’re facing a national forest emergency,” Rollins said in the release.

“We have an abundance of timber at high risk of wildfires in our national forests. I am proud to follow the bold leadership of President Trump by empowering forest managers to reduce constraints and minimize the risk of

and extinct species. It’s well known that heavily logged forests are the most flammable.” The center plans to “use every legal tool at our disposal to halt the Trump administration’s implementation of this order.”

The emergency determination authorizes the U.S. Forest Service to salvage dead or dying trees; harvest trees damaged by wind, ice or other natural disasters; conduct commercial and non-commercial sanitation harvest to control insects or disease; reforest or replant fire-impacted areas; remove hazardous trees near roads and trails; remove hazardous fire fuels; restore water sources, including watersheds, or infrastructure; rebuild existing utility lines; and replace underground cables.

Emergency action procedures must meet one of a half dozen stated goals and be authorized by the forest or grassland supervisor, according to the memo.

As for public review, “any required environmen-

fire, insects and disease so that we can strengthen the American timber industry and further enrich our forests with the resources they need to thrive.”

The emergency determination is a “trumped-up fake emergency whose real purpose is to enrich Big Timber by feeding our natural forests into the wood chipper,” Center for Biological Diversity public lands policy director Randi Spivak said in a statement. “Unleashing the bulldozers and chainsaws on these beautiful public lands will result in clearcuts, polluted streams



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The full text of the memo can be found at the following URL:

[https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/sm-1078-006.pdf?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](https://www.usda.gov/sites/default/files/documents/sm-1078-006.pdf?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)



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**Dairy:**  
continued from C2

He researched manure management and emissions as a doctoral student at Washington State University and as a University of Missouri postdoctoral researcher he worked with manure management systems. He worked for a California company for which he designed, built and supervised assembly of biological treatment systems that filter liquid dairy waste.

Miito has begun gathering baseline emissions data from the CAFE site, according to UI. His work

will focus on identifying best practices for managing, transporting, storing and using manure to minimize emissions of greenhouse gases such as methane.

He has teamed up with USDA researchers in Kimberly to aid in federal dairy emission studies. Some projects have involved working with commercial dairymen. He has helped USDA research emissions from manure spread over research plots and from lagoon water applied via sprinkler pivots.

In a whole-farm study, researchers are “getting to

understand all of the processes on a dairy farm and how they contribute to emissions,” Miito said. A goal is to “understand the hot spots on a dairy farm and then do some mitigations to test.”

Most dairy emissions come from the combination of enteric emissions — essentially methane and ammonia emitted through the mouth, resulting from fermentation of feed in the rumen, according to UI — and from dairy manure.

Miito plans to evaluate various feed additives to change cows’ biochemistry to minimize enteric

emissions. He intends to study a few options to minimize emissions from lagoons — such as trapping emissions and flaring them off, and adding sulfuric acid to chemically change lagoon water and reduce ammonia emissions.

Separating solid and liquid waste is another proven strategy to reduce emissions, according to UI. He intends to study the environmental benefits of more frequent cleaning of solids from dairy lagoons, and the use of improved technology for separating dairy liquids and solids.

Miito will research how the designs of barns and ventilation systems affect emissions, and benefits from regular cleaning of pens.

He plans to advocate for the industry and communicate about its realities to the public, according to UI.

“I am a link between the science and all of the noise out there, so I can easily tell whoever is making that noise,” Miito said. “Hey, this is how the numbers look. We need the dairy production. This is a byproduct and this is how we can deal with it.”

**Shipping:**  
continued from C1

has shown that American farmers are often the first casualties in trade wars,” the letter reads.

The Office of the U.S. Trade Representative has proposed China-flagged ships pay \$1 million to enter U.S. ports and China-built vessels pay \$1.5 million. The \$1 million fee would apply to non-China flagged ships owned by shipping companies with China-built vessels in their fleets.

The fees would apply to 43% of the international vessels calling at U.S. ports, according to the China State Shipbuilding Corporation.

In addition, trade officials propose requir-

ing 15% of U.S. exports, including farm goods, be exported on U.S.-flagged ships within seven years. The U.S. shipbuilding industry accounts for 0.3% of the global market, according to the China shipbuilders.

The Trump proposals respond to an investigation by the Biden administration that concluded the Chinese government is determined to dominate global shipping and that trade sanctions are justified. Five labor unions representing building trades asked for the investigation.

U.S. agricultural interests have reacted negatively to the proposed sanctions. Shipping companies will pass costs on, hitting farmers and

ranchers already navigating razor-thin margins, according to Duvall.

The U.S.-flagged fleet lacks capacity and requiring 15% of U.S. farm exports to be loaded on U.S. ships in seven years was simply unrealistic, he said.

“Forcing exporters into an artificially constrained system will not bolster American agriculture — it will suffocate it,” Duvall stated.

China was the top destination for U.S. agricultural exports in 2023, comprising 17% of the total, according to the USDA Economic Research Service.

Sanctions on China will backfire and hurt the

U.S. economy by increasing export costs for U.S. energy, manufactured products and farm goods, the China shipbuilding corporation argues.

Chinese ships already are bypassing Washington ports in favor of Canadian and Mexican ports to avoid existing U.S. taxes, according to Dan McKisson, Washington Area president of the Interna-

tional Longshore & Warehouse Union.

The U.S. should collect a tax at the border on Chinese goods entering by land, McKisson stated in comments to trade officials.

“By implementing the fee, we can level the playing field and eliminate the financial incentive for Chinese ships to bypass U.S. ports,” he said.

**Order:**  
continued from C8

tal assessment or environmental impact statement for an authorized emergency action requires analysis of only the proposed action and the no-action alternative and is not subject to the project level pre-decisional administrative review (objections) or any processes set forth” in the relevant Code of Federal Regulations section, according to the memo.

The declaration authorizes emergency and direct-hire authorities, emergency consultation, and sped-up

contracting, grant and agreement authorities.

The declaration calls on the Forest Service to take various actions to increase timber supply, decrease the time it takes to offer that supply, and work together with states and tribes.

The memo is “part of a larger effort to ensure American resources are properly managed for generations to come,” according to the release. Related work “will support rural economies, reduce wildfire risk, and build capacity through workforce alignment and expanded partnerships.”

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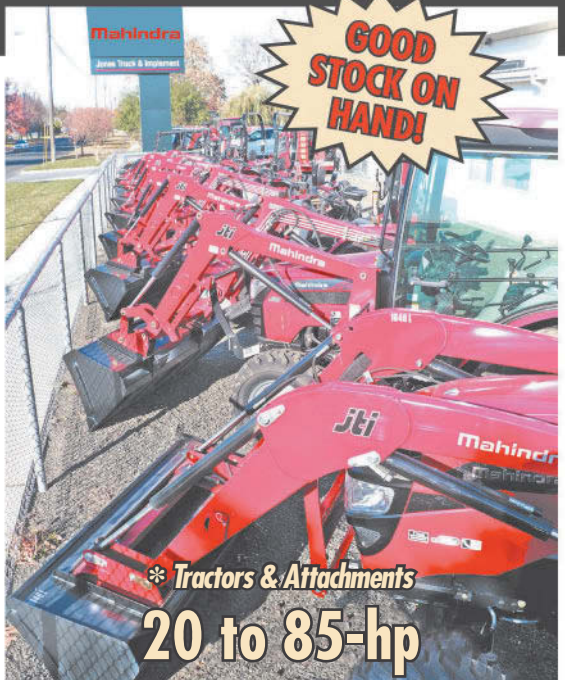


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# Drip irrigation of onions grows in SE Oregon, SW Idaho

**BY BRAD CARLSON**  
Capital Press

JAMIESON, Ore. — Corey Maag’s mid-1990s shift to drip irrigation made him an early adopter of the method now common in the sizable southeast Oregon/southwest Idaho onion growing region.

“We kind of had to do it through the drought years because there were years we didn’t have water past the end of June” using furrow irrigation, Maag said. The onion grower and packer-shipper found that with drip, he could grow nearly twice as many acres with the same amount of water compared to using furrow irrigation.

In a drip system, small diameter pipelines deliver water to the root zone through low-pressure, low volume devices placed on, or slightly above or

below, the ground, according to USDA’s Natural Resources Conservation Service. Delivery devices include drip tape, emitters, micro sprayers and bubblers.

Onion growers in southeast Oregon and southwest Idaho saved water by using drip irrigation and the method opened new ground.

“You look at some of that rolling terrain outside Parma, or between Ontario and Caldwell, none of that could be furrow irrigated,” said Stuart Reitz, director of the Oregon State University Malheur Experiment Station south of Ontario, Ore. Parma and Caldwell are in Idaho.

“So drip has opened a lot of opportunities to grow onions in places where you couldn’t have grown them before,” Reitz said.



Brad Carlson/ Capital Press

**Brothers Kasey and Corby Garrett own drip-focused Aqua Irrigation Technologies in Parma, Idaho.**

“It definitely has added to the industry” in acres and efficiency.

Around 80% of the crop in the region is drip irrigated, he said. “There are some fields where growers can do as well (economically) with furrow, so those probably won’t convert.”

Drip irrigation “gives farmers the ability to access a wider variety of fields” such as those with elevation changes or undulations, said Corby Garrett, co-owner of Aqua Irrigation Technologies in Parma.

“It’s been incredible how fast the conversion has been and the vast majority of onions are now produced with drip irrigation,” said Bruce Corn, who farms between Ontario and Nyssa, Ore.

Drip represents “significantly more than half, probably about 80%,” of onion irrigation in the area, Corn said. Bene-

fits include using less fertilizer and reducing disease pressure as water is applied evenly and stays near the application point longer.

Near Parma, Jarom Jemmett and partners have fields suitable for furrow irrigation but instead use drip on onions as well as carrot seed.

“Just for water (efficiency) and soil erosion control, we, and a lot of our neighbors, choose to use drip,” Jemmett said.

Depending on the crop year and rotations, “there are some guys with a nice laser-leveled field who will still furrow irrigate,” said Jeff Aldred, sales manager with Clearwater Supply in Ontario.

But drip irrigation of onions is growing as some longtime furrow irrigators scale back and as acres change hands, he said.

Another growth factor is larger drip projects,

which can be expanded by connecting a nearby field to an existing system, Aldred said.

Some growers are moving away from using portable stations — placed and removed each year — and instead opting for a permanent, central station that pipes water to different fields, Garrett said. The permanent station has a slightly higher initial cost but saves labor in the long run.

Using drip irrigation to help reduce labor and increase crop quality is a trend along with increased interest in taking advantage of advancements in tape recycling, he said.

“Most guys who have done drip, they’ve got to learn from experience,” Maag said. Initial challenges can include cost and learning a new way to manage water and optimize volumes for best crop quality.



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National Association of Wheat Growers leadership and staff toured different aspects of the Pacific Northwest wheat industry in Portland as part of training and team-building programs, including the Wheat Marketing Center.

# NAWG leadership tours Portland industry

By MATTHEW WEAVER  
Capital Press

National Association of Wheat Growers leadership toured Pacific Northwest wheat industry assets as part of annual training and team building.

It's an opportunity to bring NAWG leaders and staff and foundation officers together, said Gary Broyles, chairman of the National Wheat Foundation, a non-profit partner of NAWG which puts on the annual national wheat yield contest.

The annual meeting was held in Portland March 24-26, providing a chance to showcase the industry's assets there. The leaders toured the Wheat Marketing Center, Tidewater Barge Lines and a Columbia Grain and Pacifcor terminal.

"I'm from Montana; we depend on it because most Montana wheat goes on a railcar somewhere to one of the ports out there," Broyles said. As farmers, "it's good for us to know what challenges you have in Oregon and how they

affect our business across the United States."

It was an opportunity to convey more information to the leaders about transportation issues up and down the Columbia River, he said.

"We hear about it, we know that there is a leg-

See NAWG, Page C13

## WHEAT YIELD CONTEST NOW OPEN

The national contest is now open. Deadline to submit for winter wheat is May 15 and for spring wheat is Aug. 1. Harvest data is due Oct. 1.

Last year, the contest had more than 500 participants, up from 200 several years earlier.

"That has grown and grown and grown," said Gary Broyles, chairman of the National Wheat Foundation. "We're delighted, we just think there's nothing but upside there."

The contest emphasizes quality as well as bushel productivity, he said.

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# Idaho water supply forecasters optimistic after wet March

By **BRAD CARLSON**  
Capital Press

Snowpack that is near, at, or above normal in much of Idaho leaves USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service hydrologists optimistic that many irrigators will have enough water.

The only areas of concern, where snowpack is below normal, are the Coeur d'Alene-St. Joe basin in the northern pan-handle, the Big Lost and Little Lost basins in the central mountains and the Birch-Medicine Lodge/Beaver-Camas basin in the east-central region, according to the April 1 NRCS Idaho Water Supply Outlook Report.

“The near- to above-normal snowpack across many basins in Idaho bodes well for a good



Courtesy NRCS

**NRCS water supply specialist Erin Whorton and acting supervisory hydrologist Shawn Nield take snow core measurements April 1 in the mountains northeast of Boise.**

water supply season this water year,” Erin Whorton, NRCS Idaho water supply specialist, said in a news release. “Of course,

what happens during the spring and summer will strongly influence whether there’s enough water to go around, but with this year’s snowpack and the expectation that reservoirs will fill, conditions are setting water

users up for success.” With recent warm weather, it appears snowpack has peaked, she said in an interview. At this point in the Oct. 1-Sept. 30 water year, “we do have a good sense of what the water season is going

to look like” except for spring weather impacts. Irrigators use natural-flow water rights before they exercise rights to water stored in reservoirs. Spring rain would

See IDAHO, Page C13



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Idaho:

continued from C12

reduce irrigation demand and in turn allow irrigators to delay usage of storage water, effectively making it available longer into the season, Whorton said. But if spring conditions are hot and dry, “natural flow might taper off sooner rather than later and irrigators would need to use their stored water.”

Streamflow and reservoir-storage forecasts “indicate that it will be a good water season across much of Idaho,” she said.

Upper Snake River Basin supply improved and looks good thanks to above-normal precipitation in February and March, Whorton said. “It looks like a good water season, but of course it will depend on spring weather.”

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration’s Climate Prediction Center forecasts warmer-than normal conditions through mid-April, but the center’s one-month outlook is less certain, according to the NRCS report. In late spring and in summer, the center expects conditions that are warmer and drier than normal.

Drought conditions persist along the Idaho-Montana border, according to the U.S. Drought Monitor.

Reservoir storage volume was 95% of normal in the Boise River basin and 93% of normal in the Payette system April 1, according to NRCS. In both systems, releases from behind dams started in mid-March to reduce



Courtesy NRCS

Erin Whorton, NRCS Idaho water supply specialist.

flood risk and make room for incoming snowmelt.

Upper Snake reservoir system storage was 116% of normal April 1, according to NRCS.

In the central mountains, Magic Reservoir volume was 90% of normal.

In Southern Snake River basins, where water-year precipitation is 100-120% of normal, reservoir volumes included 185% of normal in Owyhee, 137% in Oakley and 85% in Salmon Falls, according to NRCS.

NAWG:

continued from C11

islative effort to make some changes, but to be there and see it firsthand, I think, just brings a little bit of reality to it,” he said.

NAWG is the primary representative for wheat farmers in Washington, D.C. The foundation does not get involved in ag policy, instead hosting lead-

ership training and educational farm tours for political and agency representatives about “the risky business of farming.”

“It’s different if you hear it in Washington, D.C. than if you hear it out in the field as you hear a farmer explain some of their challenges,” Broyles said.

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# Small bumps for Northwest wheat, corn planting; small drops for barley, hay

By **MATTHEW WEAVER**  
Capital Press

Pacific Northwest farmers expect to plant slightly more wheat and corn, and slightly less barley and hay this year, according to USDA's prospective plantings report.

Washington farmers will plant 2.35 million acres this year, up 2.4% from 2.3 million acres in 2024. Winter wheat is estimated to be 1.85 million acres, up 2.8% from 1.8 million acres the previous year. Spring wheat is estimated at 500,000 acres, up 11% from 450,000 acres.

Idaho farmers will plant 1.19 million acres of wheat, down 1.7% from 1.21 million acres in 2024. Winter acres are up, at 790,000 acres, a 3.9% increase from 760,000 acres in 2024. The decline comes in spring wheat, with 400,000 acres pro-

jected, an 11% decrease from 450,000 acres the year before.

"Nothing alarming or out of the ordinary for typical variations in Idaho," said Britany Hurst Marchant, executive director of the Idaho Wheat Commission.

Idaho wheat acres fluctuate slightly every year depending on crop rotations, the amount of winter wheat planted in the fall and some economic factors, "but planted acres remain steady overall."

Oregon farmers will plant 750,000 acres of winter wheat, up 1.4% from 740,000 acres in 2024. Spring wheat is negligible in Oregon.

Essentially unchanged acreage in Oregon would be expected because "we are so heavily planted in winter wheat," said Amanda Hoey, Oregon Wheat CEO. With most

acreage in dryland production, "it lines up with a fairly level planted area over time."

Overall, the region will plant about 4.3 million acres, up nearly 1.1% from nearly 4.25 million acres in 2024, according to the report

Nationwide, wheat acres are projected at 45.4 million acres, down 1.6% from 46.1 million acres.

"That's not surprising given the challenging ag economy with high input costs and low market prices, as well as the dynamics of where wheat is positioned related to other crops," Oregon's Hoey said. "We have been losing acreage over time, even as we make gains from research investments and production practices into the amount that can be produced on a given acre."

## Barley

Barley in Washington dropped 15%, from 80,000 acres in 2024 to 68,000 acres.

Idaho barley acreage was unchanged, at 530,000 acres.

Barley in Oregon dropped slightly, from 31,000 acres last year to 30,000 acres, a 3.2% decline.

The region saw a 2.1% decline, from 641,000 acres last year to 628,000 acres.

Nationwide, barley acres declined 2.4%, from 2.37 million acres to 2.32 million acres

## Corn

The Pacific Northwest saw a 6.1% increase in corn acres planted, from 655,000 acres to 695,000 acres.

Corn acreage in Idaho increased by 10.5%, from 380,000 acres to 420,000 acres.

Corn also increased in

Oregon, from 100,000 acres to 105,000 acres, a 5% increase.

Corn declined slightly in Washington, from 175,000 acres to 170,000 a 2.9% decline.

Nationally, corn increased from nearly 91 million acres to 95.3 million acres, a 5.2% bump.

## Hay

Hay harvested in the Pacific Northwest dropped by 3.2%, from 2.8 million acres to 2.71 million acres.

Idaho hay acres dropped by 4%, from 1.25 million acres to 1.2 million acres.

In Oregon, hay declined 3.2%, from 930,000 acres to 900,000 acres.

Washington hay acres dropped from 620,000 acres to 610,000 acres, a 1.6% decline.

Nationwide, hay dropped 1.8% from 49.4 million acres to 48.5 million acres.

## Chobani:

continued from C3

"and even more to come," according to the release.

Community and state leadership brought Chobani to Idaho and remain critical to the company's success, founder and CEO

Hamdi Ulukaya said. "The leadership in the state, and the city ... This is a place where you say, 'It's easy to do business.'"

"I tell my fellow ag producers: 'Change is inevitable. Adaptation and survival are optional,'" Gov. Brad Little said. Ulukaya

"not only changes ... He knows what the American consumers, what the world consumers, want. And that's what he's producing right here."

Since coming to south-central Idaho in 2012, Chobani has invested over \$1.3 billion in the region, according to the company.

Investments in addition to buildings and machines include millions of meals donated to fight food inse-

curity, nearly \$500,000 in scholarships for Idaho students, and \$1 million for the University of Idaho's dairy research facility — the multi-component Center for Agriculture, Food and the Environment — "ensuring Idaho remains a leader in dairy innovation," according to the release.

Ulukaya never sacrificed his principles or goals as the business established itself in the region and

grew, Rep. Mike Simpson, R-Idaho, told the founder. Employees reflect the same principles, and "you have instilled it in them. And what you've done for this community, you can't say enough about."

The groundbreaking celebrates not only the expansion, but also the business and its people team "that help so many other parts of this community," said Sen. Mike Crapo, R-Idaho.

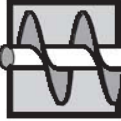
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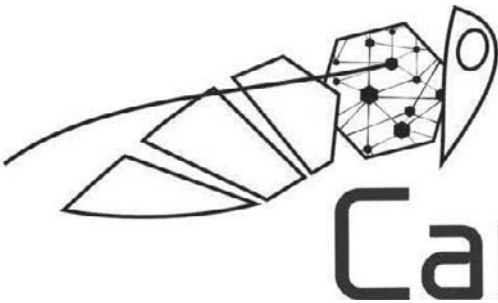
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SHOPBUILT BACKPACKER FRAME & 1600-GAL CONE TANK...\$5,000

HARVEST



'19 MACDON FD135 FLEX DRAPER, 35', CIH Adapter, Top Auger.....\$69,950

TILLAGE



JD 2400 CHISEL PLOW, 40', Converted To Ripper Shanks, 1000-Gal Poly Tank, 3 Bar Time Harrow .....\$25,000



WILRICH DANISH TINE CULTIVATOR, 32', Basket Harrow.....\$1,950

HAY EQUIPMENT



'10 NH BC5070 HAYLINER, Hyd Swing Hitch, Hyd Lift Pickup, Hyd Tensioner, Moisture Monitor, Long Chute w/ 1/4 Turn Tipper, 1 Owner .....\$22,950



'94 JD 920 MOCO ROTARY MOWER CONDITIONER, 9'9" Cut.....\$5,950



HESSTON 4650 INLINE SMALL SQUARE BALER, PTO.....\$7,500



NH 1068 BALE WAGON, 3184 Hrs, Duals.....\$7,000



STEFFEN 5510 BALE HANDLER, Skidsteer Mount, Rotator.....\$4,500



FARMHAND BALE HANDLER, Skidsteer Mount ..\$1,200



(6) JD HZ DRILLS, 48' Stoess Hitch.....\$5,000

TRUCKS & TRAILERS



'10 PETERBILT 384, 640K Mi, 410 HP Cummins, 10 Spd.....\$33,950



'94 FORD L9000, 336K Mi, Cat 3176, 10 Spd, 20' Bed/ Hoist w/ Removable Box, Roll Tarp.....\$27,000



'12 KW T800, 577K Mi, Cummins ISX, 10 Spd, Lift Axle....\$39,950



'12 KW T800, 543K Mi, Cummins ISX With Late Overhaul, 10 Spd, Lift Axle .....\$49,950



'79 CHEVROLET C70, 52.7K Mi, 366 V8, 5 X 2 Transmission, 16' Fruehauf Steel Bed & Hoist, Seed Auger .....\$6,950



'16 FORD F150XLT SUPERCREW, 162K Mi, 3.5L EcoBoost, 4WD, Tonneau Cover.....\$13,950

DRILLS



WILRICH QUAD 5, 33', Airbox, Stealth Openers, 2 section Contol, Sweeps/Chisel Points, Fertilizer Points Included.....\$15,000



'23 AGPRO CROSS SLOT DRILL, 36' 10" Spacing, 1500 & 500 Gal Tanks, 135 Bu Airbox, Scales.....\$338,000

COMBINES



REDEKOP MAV CHOPPER & SEED CONTROL UNIT, Came Off JD S780 .....\$59,950

TRACTORS



'09 CHALLENGER MT855C, 6914 Hrs, 36" Tracks, PTO, AutoSteer, Full Weight Package.....\$145,000



JD 4230, 7100 Hrs, 2 Remotes, JD 613 Mower .....\$8,600



'76 STEIGER ST270 COUGAR III, 6802 Hrs, 4 Remotes, 200 Hrs On Rebuild Transmission, Hydraulics, Center Pins.....\$10,000



ALLIS CHALMER 170, 1394 Hrs, Loader, 11' Danish Tine Cultivator.....\$5,000

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