



Volume 44

48 Pages

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Number 1



Josh Knodel and Matt Miller have been involved in the Lind Combine Demolition Derby, in Lind, Wash., since 2020, when they were 16 and 15. After the first year, they've entered a combine called Jaws every year for 25 years. "It's a thrilling event – it's fun to see these machines crash into each other," Miller said. Matthew Weaver/Capital Press

Longtime drivers grew up with Lind Combine Demolition Derby

By Matthew Weaver
Capital Press

LIND, Wash. — Josh Knodel and Matt Miller have literally grown up with the Lind Combine Demolition Derby.

When they first entered the long-running derby in 2000, Knodel was 16 and Miller was 15.

Combine drivers in the annual competition had to be at least 18 years old, so their dads spent the first several outings in the driver's seat.

Knodel and Miller entered their first year in 2000 as the U.S.S. American Rat. But, in every derby since their entry has been named Jaws.

Both dads won the derby driving Jaws.

In 2003, Knodel drove and lost. In 2004, Miller drove and won, on the combine he learned to drive on and used to harvest the summer before. Knodel won in 2005.

Their involvement in the derby was

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JAWS:

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captured in the 2014 farming documentary, “Dryland,” filmed for over a decade.

Miller’s won a couple times, Knodel thinks he’s just won the once.

How important is winning?

“At that age ...” Knodel said.

“Now it’s kind of changed,” Miller said. “Now it’s more being in the show and helping put on the show.”

Indeed, Knodel and Miller’s involvement with the derby deepened over the years.

They graduated college, returned to Lind, got married, had children, joined their family farms operations full time. Both raise dryland wheat. Knodel is a fourth-generation farmer with his brother Nathan, Miller is a third-generation farmer.

They joined the Lind Lions Club, which puts on the derby as an annual community fundraiser.

The club has about 12 active members that “basically make the show go, that devote a lot of time,” Knodel said.

Both are past club presidents. They chair the Lions Club Cook Shack committee and oversee grounds maintenance.

“The last 10 years have been more to keep the show going,” Knodel said.

Keeping the show going

The derby runs June 12-13.

Lind’s population is about 535. Each year, the event draws about 3,000 to 3,500 people.

“Our attendance hasn’t been growing,

but we haven’t been declining,” Knodel said. “We figure we have enough bleacher space for just shy of 2,800 people, and then by the time you figure the people standing and the people in the back ...”

The biggest financial strain on the club is insurance costs, which tripled last year. Costs are up again this year, Knodel said, including security and bathroom facilities.

Derby profits – about \$25,000 to \$30,000 – go back into the Lind community each year.

In recent years, the club has partnered with Northwest Rally Association, which puts on its own races at the venue twice a year, to help supplement the income and use the arena more than once a year.

“But we still need people to come to our June weekend,” Knodel said. “For as much work as we put into this and people put into the combines, the race cars, the grain trucks, we need people to come, for us to keep doing that.”

The fourth Jaws

Twenty-five years later, Knodel and Miller are on their fourth Jaws, which they put into the show several years ago.

The previous Jaws were all sold for scrap. The third Jaws may have been in the derby the longest, for more than 10 years, Miller said.

Knodel and Miller estimate that they haven’t had a “really serious Jaws build” since 2009 or 2010.

“This used to consume our weekends – pretty much, from the whole month of May to

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the first week into June, after school and our college weekends and days off, we were working on derby combines,” Knodel said.

Full-time farmers

With fuel and fertilizer prices increasing, “market price is not very good,” Miller said. “It’s definitely not easy.”

Knodel in April was dealing with crops ahead of schedule due to a mild winter, and evening temperatures of 14 to 21 degrees Fahrenheit. He expected reduced yield due to frost at the stage the wheat was in at the time.

Both are profitable, but it takes acres to spread

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Longtime Lind Lions Club members and Lind Combine Demolition Derby drivers Matt Miller and Josh Knodel stand with the fourth version of Jaws, their entry in the derby for the last 25 years. . As they’ve gotten more involved with putting the show together, Miller and Knodel let friends drive the combine in the annual event. (Matthew Weaver/Capital Press)

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out farm costs.

Since they first began in the derby in 2000, their farms have doubled or tripled in size, they say.

“The responsibility on the farm side has totally changed since we were 16 years old, even from my dad’s standpoint,” Knodel said. “My dad had more time than we do now.”

“In those times, your busy times were shorter and then

you had a little time off,” Miller said. “Now, we’re just consistently busy going right into the next thing. We don’t have that little break in between operations.”

How do they manage their time between farming, family and the derby?

“Ninety percent of it is probably farming, 8% of it is family and 2% is derby,” Knodel said.

‘Letting our buddies drive’

Around 2008, the duo



Longtime Lind Combine Demolition Derby drivers and Lind, Wash., community leaders Josh Knodel and Matt Miller’s kids hang out during the derby in 2025. (Matt Miller/Contributed)

began offering a team of college friends and “new recruits” the opportunity to drive Jaws the combine.

“We’ve been letting our buddies drive,” Knodel said.

Last year, it was an old roommate’s turn, an Iowa farmer out for the derby for the first time.

“He’s a farm kid, so he’s driven combine, but he’s never crashed one,” Knodel said.

Other friends fondly remember driving combine while working as summer help.

“Giving everybody a chance to have the fun in driving,” Miller said.

The team built four combines in 2022, to get the number of combines competing in the derby that year up to 12.

That included two Jaws combines, one that was in

“really tough shape,” and one in better shape.

If someone enters a combine for one year, Knodel and Miller’s team will take it over to keep it running for a few more years in the big show.

“We’ve got a pretty good skill set of keeping combines running,” Knodel said. “We have combine

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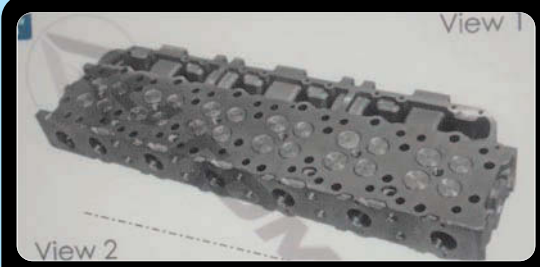


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parts probably that no one has.”

‘Tons of energy’

“They’re two ambitious — I call them kids, they’re not kids anymore,” said Mike Doyle, longtime Lind Lions Club member and chairman of the demolition derby. “They’ve got a lot of drive. They bring tons of energy to our club.”

Their influence has attracted new club members from a younger generation, Doyle said.

For instance, Knodel and Miller recently gave members two weeks’ notice that May 27 was going to be a work day to rebuild the arena and reset concrete barriers.

“We had 15 people show up on a day that everybody could’ve been working,” Doyle said.

Old combines

The Lions Club buys old combines and accepts donations.

“We figure out a way to go get it, then we’ll bring it to town,” Knodel said.

The club sells them to drivers looking to compete in the derby.

Out in the field, a working combine may run for “a good 20 years,” Miller said. Some are still running three decades in.

“Usually we’ll see them in the pasture, parked for a couple of years, then you know: They’re ready for the derby,” he said.

Most of the time, a donated combine still worked when it was last parked, even if that was 10 years ago, Miller said.

“We can usually get those ones running,” he said. “If

there’s a major issue, we’re not going to take it.”

Most derby combines were built in the 1970s and 1980s.

Derby rules say they must be at least 25 years old.

“We’re getting to the point now where there are some big combines that are technically 25 years old,” Knodel said. “They can run, but they’re still holding their value.”

“It’ll be a few years before you see those (in the derby),” Miller said.

Knodel estimates 17 or 18 combines could be in this year’s derby.

There’s also been an “uptick” in grain trucks — grain truck races are another popular offering during the derby — with six to eight trucks potentially racing this year.

Fewer combines, fewer farm kids

“Some people say it shouldn’t have lasted this long,” Miller said of the derby. “As combines get newer, they get bigger and there’s less of them available. It takes less combines to farm the same amount of acres. It’s going to be tough to find combines in the future.”

Another shortage: Kids with the skillset and resources to enter a combine, including welding and scrounging for parts, as people in general get more and more removed from farm life.

The boys did all their own welding and cutting, with their dads stepping in to help as needed.

But they’d been removing parts from parts combines since they were little kids, just for something to do, Knodel recalled.

“That combine in 2000,

that was truly 100% Matt and I doing that as a 15-year-old and 16-year old,” Knodel said.

There’s still interest. Some very technical peo-

ple have attended the show from throughout Eastern Washington, or helped out on a pit crew.

The driving age requirement was lowered to 16 last

year, to encourage more participants.

“We figured, if we let 16-year-olds drive race cars,

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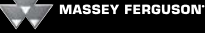
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Longtime Lind Combine Demolition Derby drivers and organizers Josh Knodel and Matt Miller stand in front of the combine that a Lind Lions Club raffle winner may choose to drive in the derby April 24 at the Lind Lions Club Arena in Lind, Wash. The derby runs June 12-13. (Matthew Weaver/Capital Press)



To compete in the Lind Combine Demolition Derby, a combine must be at least 25 years old. “As combines get newer, they get bigger and there’s less of them available,” longtime driver and organizer Matt Miller said. (Matthew Weaver/Capital Press)

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we might as well let them drive combines,” Knodel said. Some FFA members from Spangle, Wash., have competed for the past two years — part of the reason for the rule change. Miller and Knodel welcome derby demolitionists from outside the immediate area. They try to keep at least 12 combines in the derby to last throughout the day. “We want to have enough combine crashing to make it work,” Miller said.

The future

Knodel married in 2010 and had kids in 2015. Miller married in 2013 and had kids in 2016. Their other teammates also have kids. “Now the kids are getting more interested in it,” Miller said. “Five more years, they’ll be old enough to help a little bit more.” Knodel has two sons. Miller has a son and daughter. Their oldest kids are 10 years old. Just six more years before they’re old enough to drive in the derby themselves. The dads can’t wait. “Ultimately, that’s our goal, to have the kids run with this,” Knodel said. “Last year, they were out here one weekend, all weekend, helping us paint and build it,” Miller said. “So we’re close,” Knodel said. “We’re close.”



Josh Knodel and Matt Miller look over Jaws, the combine – their fourth Jaws in 25 years – they will enter in the Lind Combine Demolition Derby this year, April 24 at the Lind Lions Club Arena in Lind, Wash. “This is important – we have to keep this deal going for Lind,” Knodel said. “It’s what keeps Lind on the map. \$25,000 to \$30,000 back into the community – that’s a lot of money.” (Matthew Weaver/Capital Press)



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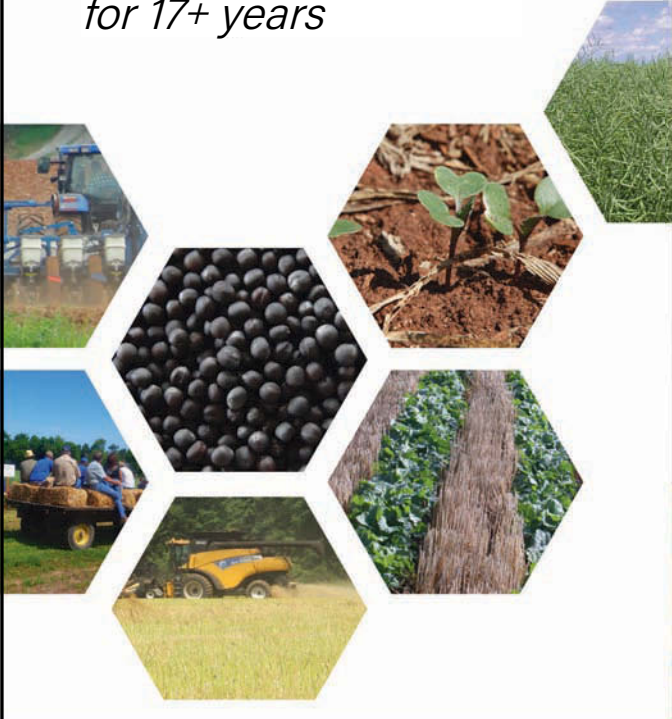


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Kitchen Corner: July cherries

By Dana

The first cherries are traditionally ready by the Fourth of July. Here are some classic cherry recipes from Northwest Cherries.

Northwest sweet cherry pie

Ingredients

- 2 Pie crusts, prepared
- 2 tbsp Cornstarch
- 2 tbsp cherry juice, reserved from pitting (fresh) or from rinsing/rehydrating (preserved)
- 7 cups Northwest Cherries pitted
- 3/4-1 cup sugar*
- 1 tbsp almond extract or bourbon-vanilla bean infusion

Instructions

- Using a fork, whisk together the cherry water and cornstarch in a small bowl, then set aside.
- Stem and pit the cherries, if not already done.
- Fill pie dish with cherries and blend the remaining volume (about 2 cups or



Sweet cherry pie

- 1/4 the total volume) into a puree. Pour the remaining whole cherries into a mixing bowl and return to the refrigerator (if using frozen cherries).
- Using a heavy-bottomed pan, gently heat the puree and sugar over low heat until the volume has

- reduced by 1/3 to 1/2. Constantly stir across the bottom to prevent burning.
- Once reduced, remove from the heat and stir in the cornstarch slurry until the mix regains translucency. Gently and briefly reheat if needed. Stir in the extract and let the mixture cool to



Cherry shortcakes

room temperature.

- Pour the cooled mixture over the whole cherries, gently stirring to incorporate. Pour the final cherry mixture into a 9 or 10-inch prepared pie crust, and top with a second crust. Pinch, crimp and vent the top crust. Brush with a beaten egg if so desired and sprinkle lightly with coconut sugar.

Bake at 375 degrees for 55-60 minutes, or until the crust is golden brown and the filling is steadily bubbling. Aluminum foil may be used around the crust edges to prevent browning during the second half of the bake. Transfer the pie to a cooling rack, and most importantly, allow the pie to cool completely before serving (3-4 hours).

*sugar may be substituted for 3/4 - 1 cup coconut sugar (Grandma later changed this to lower-gly-

cemic coconut sugar)

Cherry shortcakes

Ingredients

- Muffins
- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1/4 cup granulated sugar
- 1 tbsp baking powder
- 1/2 tsp salt
- 1 stick unsalted butter, cold
- 1 egg
- 1/4 cup Greek yogurt or sour cream
- 3 tbsp milk
- 1 1/2 cups fresh cherries, pitted and cut in half
- Store-bought or home-made whipped cream

Instructions

- In a large bowl, whisk together flour, sugar, baking powder, and salt.
- Using a cheese grater, grate the cold butter into the dry ingredients mixture. Use a fork to mix until the butter is incorporated and

See CORNER, Page A11

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Fresh cherry crisp

Corner:

continued from A10

the mixture is crumbly.

Mix in the egg, Greek yogurt, and milk. Knead the dough with your hands to bring it together.

On a well-floured surface, roll out the dough to 1/2-inch thick. Cut five cakes out of the dough using a round biscuit cutter or the mouth of a glass. Place cakes on a plate and leave in the fridge for 20 minutes. Preheat the oven to 350 degrees.

Transfer the chilled cakes to a baking sheet lined with parchment paper. Bake for 25 to 28 minutes until lightly golden. Let cool. Slice in half and layer with whipped cream and sliced cherries.

Fresh cherry crisp

Ingredients

For the Cherry Layer:

2 1/2 ball pounds fresh cherries, pitted and halved

1/4 cup granulated sugar

3 tbsp all-purpose flour

Juice of half of a lemon

For the Crisp Topping:

1 1/2 cups all-purpose flour

1 cup oats

1/2 cup granulated sugar

1 tsp baking powder

1 tsp salt

8 tbsp unsalted butter, melted

Instructions

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. In a medium bowl, add the cherries, sugar, flour, and lemon juice. Stir until combined. Transfer to a greased cast iron skillet or 9 X 13-inch cake pan.

In a mixing bowl, whisk together the flour, oats, sugar, baking powder, and salt until well combined. Pour the melted butter into the dry ingredients mixture. Use a fork to mix until combined.

Pour the cherry mixture into the cast iron to create an even base layer. Cover evenly with the crisp topping.

Bake the cherry crisp for one hour until the cherries are bubbly and the top is golden. Serve warm with a scoop of vanilla ice cream or gelato.



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It's the Pitts: Pimple-faced computer cowboys and incorporating AI

By Lee Pitts

In our area we've been invaded by Silicone Valley tycoons with too much money who are buying up ranches at astronomical prices even though they don't know the first thing about the cattle business.

These geeks look at real cattlemen like we are neanderthals because of the way we dress and talk and our failure to incorporate AI into our operations. I tried it once years ago before these pimply-faced computer cowboys had made their first million and it was a wreck of epic proportions.

Some ranches are just not compatible with artificial insemination.

Oh, wait a minute, the computer cowboys are not talking about our reluctance to use artificial insemination, they are referring of course to artificial intelligence. I gotta tell you, if all these robo-calls I get are an example of the use of arti-



Lee Pitts

cial intelligence then I don't want to live in a world that is artificially intelligent.

Another example often given about the wonders of AI is something called Chat GPT which allows its users to plagiarize from writers like me without giving any credit or any royalties.

Since AI is going to put a lot of people out of work I just don't understand all the excitement about it.

Here's just one example of how AI and algorithms are costing these computer cowboys lots of money.

I enjoy shipping cattle
and I did it occasionally for

a couple order buyers and one very astute auction yard owner. Usually these folks called me when they were overbooked for shipping cattle that had sold on the video. Invariably they only sent me to the one or two-load deals that were close to my home.

My instructions were very simple: sort off the bad eyes, the gimps and any cattle that were outliers that just didn't fit. My instructions also depended a lot on the market. If the cattle were bought too high on the video I was instructed to be a lot more picky and if the cattle were bought real cheap I was told to put every animal that could limp up the chute on the truck, even if it was already overloaded.

The last time I shipped cattle it was to a new computer cowboy who refused to send his cattle to the auction market where his cattle would be subjected to true price discovery. So the owner of the auction yard just bought the cattle real

cheap and resold them at his weekly auction sale.

When I arrived at the ranch to ship the calves I noticed they had been deprived of feed and water overnight as per the deal and they looked like they must have been worked real hard the day before by wifey, the drones and dogs used to round them up. (The reason people are so excited about AI is that it will reduce the human involvement in many tasks, in this case cowboys.)

The computer cowboy excitedly told me that in the future he was also going to be incorporating facial recognition on his cows, electronic ear tags, virtual fencing with each cow having to wear a collar around its neck, and cameras everywhere so he could check on his cattle at all times using his smart phone.

With only one load to ship I thought I'd be in and out of the shipping in an hour but I was still at it FIVE HOURS later! That's

because the computer cowboy insisted on individually weighing and recording other data on every single calf so he could, “Build data sets to use in his algorithms.” Whatever that means.

I swear, each calf was weighed on a scale that looked more like a clipping chute than it did a scale but these weren't show calves! It was a hot day and as the owner was busy building his data sets the calves waiting to be weighed were shriveling up like raisins.

After the auction owner sold the cattle at his weekly sale he sent me a nice check as a thank-you because the calves had the biggest shrink he'd ever heard of. He also asked, "I don't know what you did when you shipped those calves but do you want a full time job?"

From this and other experiences I've come to the conclusion that the more artificial intelligence is employed the less intelligent people become.

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HEADER

New World Screwworm crosses into Texas

By Don Jenkins
Capital Press

The New World Screwworm fly has been detected in southwest Texas, completing the cattle-attacking parasite's northward march through Central America and Mexico.

The USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service confirmed June 3 that a 3-week-old calf in Zavala County was infected with New World Screwworm larvae.

The USDA quarantined cattle in the area and said it will release sterile flies there. The New World Screwworm does not infest fruits or vegetables, according to APHIS.

"We are treating the confirmed case of New World Screwworm in a Texas cattle ranch with the utmost seriousness and are responding aggressively alongside our state partners," Agriculture Secretary Brooke Rollins said on X.

Texas Agriculture Commissioner Sid Miller, however, said the USDA's response to the advancing threat was slow and incomplete.

The USDA has relied too much on sterile flies to reduce wild populations and not enacted a broader plan that includes attractants and pesticides, he said. He urged President Trump to take charge.

"Mr. President, I am asking you to take direct control of this response," Miller said in a statement. "Cut through the bureaucracy ... and throw every available federal resource at this threat before it becomes a full-blown agriculture disaster."

The USDA did not immediately respond to a request to comment.

Rollins blamed the Biden administration for the New World Screwworm crossing the Darien Gap, a rain-



The New World Screwworm fly, shown here in a drawing, burrows into the open wounds of livestock. Once eradicated from the U.S., it has been detected in Texas. (USDA/Contributed)

forest between Colombia and Panama.

"The Biden-Harris administration, led by 'Border Czar' (Kamala Harris) ran a wide-open border that turned the Darien Gap into a nonstop highway for illegal migration, infested animals and all," she said on X. "That single policy did more to introduce NWS into the U.S. than anything else."

Flesh-eating larve

New World Screwworm flies lay eggs in the open wounds of livestock. Flesh-eating larvae widen wounds and draw in more egg-laying females.

Livestock rarely survive severe infections, according to the USDA. New World Screwworms were blamed for killing 180,000 head of livestock in Texas in 1935.

The pest ranged throughout the Southwest and Southeast until USDA scientists pioneered using radiation to breed sterile flies to prevent wild populations from reproducing. The pest was eradicated from the U.S. and Mexico by 1993.

Since November 2024, Mexico has reported 26,964 detections, including 49 in the state of Coahuila, which shares a 318-mile long border with Texas. Another 235 cases have been reported in Nuevo Leon, which has a 13-mile border with Texas.

In response to detections in Mexico, the USDA closed the

border to live cattle from Mexico and made plans to increase production of sterile flies.

"Instead of using every available tool, USDA moved too slowly and relied solely on a particular solution that takes years to fully implement," Miller said.

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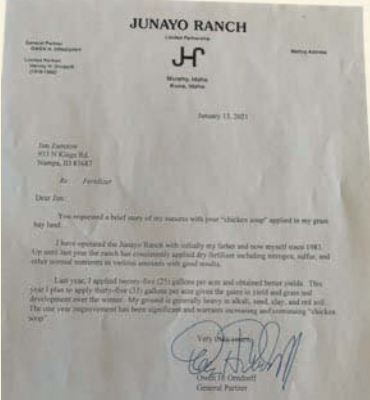
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Farmers vote on renewing Christmas tree checkoff

By Mateusz Perkowski
Capital Press

Farmers have cast their ballots on whether to continue the Christmas tree industry's checkoff program, concluding a referendum that's been markedly quieter than previous iterations.

Unlike two elections held during the program's early years, there doesn't appear to have been any organized campaigns attempting to sway this year's vote.

"There really was not an organized 'vote yes' or 'vote no' campaign," said Marsha Gray, executive director of the Real Christmas Tree Board, which administers the program.

The checkoff program, which assesses growers 15 cents for each tree sold, raises money for crop research and promotions under a governance system overseen by USDA.

Last year, assessments raised nearly \$1.4 million for the checkoff, which aims to help the industry compete against fake trees, down from more than \$1.5 million in 2024.

Much of the early opposition to the checkoff likely stemmed from a fear of the unknown, which has subsided now that it's been operational for more than a decade, Gray said.

"There will always be detractors, but I feel like the Christmas tree indus-



Christmas tree growers throughout the country have cast their ballots in a referendum on continuing the industry's checkoff program. Last year, assessments raised nearly \$1.4 million to promote real Christmas trees. (Oregon Department of Agriculture/Contributed)

try has come to understand and accept what the RCTB is doing, as a general rule," she said. "It's become sort of a part of daily operations."

Past controversy

Controversy initially erupted over the checkoff shortly after it was created in 2011, when a conservative think-tank characterized the assessment as a "Christmas tree tax" imposed by the Obama administration.

The negative publicity prompted the

USDA to delay the checkoff's implementation for several years, eventually allowing the program to begin operating in 2015 only after a direct order from Congress.

Though the issue faded from mainstream attention, the checkoff continued to generate debate among Christmas tree growers, who initially voted on the program in 2018.

Despite the efforts of a group of growers who opposed the checkoff —

Farmers Against Christmas Tree Taxation, or FACTT — the referendum was narrowly approved by 51% of growers that year.

The USDA ordered another election to be held in 2019, when 55% of farmers voted in favor of keeping the program running.

Under the agency's rules, another referendum on the checkoff must be held every seven years, which occurred this year through mail and electronic ballots submitted between May 22 and June 2.

The RCTB expects the USDA will count the ballots and release the results by late June or early July, said Gray.

Gray said she wouldn't go so far as to say she's confident the checkoff will be re-approved, as it depends on who is motivated to send in their ballots, but she feels "very comfortable with where we're at."

Frans Kok, a Christmas tree grower in Virginia who spearheaded the FACTT campaign against the checkoff in 2018 and 2019, said he wasn't aware another referendum was being held this year.

However, Kok said he still objects to this form of "taxation" that interferes with the free market for products.

"I still feel very strongly about it. I think it's bloody nonsense," he said.



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JD 6155R, 5600 hrs, 155 hp, front 3 pt,\$98,000



JD 6145R, 1907 hrs, 145 hp, gps\$135,000



Case IH 9250, 10,400 hrs, no pto.\$25,000



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!\$110,000



JD 7800 W/DUALS, pto, 11,675 hrs.\$50,000



JD 8300 W/DUALS, pto, 8751 hrs.\$60,000



2012 MF 8670 4x4, 3900 hrs, pto, rear mounted 1500 gal tank front mounted 120' boom, Weed-It system on middle 80', outer wings are removable, auto boom height control, nice set-up.\$175,000



2013 JD 9560T, 5396 hrs, pto.\$150,000



JD 9420T, 3762 hrs, 8345 hrs, pto, Greenstar 3000 guidance\$60,000



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2001 FORD F150 XLT, Triton V8, 4x4, one owner, well maintained, runs excellent, nice older truck.\$6,000



2008 FORD F550, Crew Cab, leather, 6.4L Diesel, 4x4, duals, 89,000 miles, flatbed with boxes and trailer ball hitch, good tires and aluminum wheels.\$19,000 OBO



2020 DODGE RAM 2500 Laramie 4x4, loaded, 5,950 miles, excellent condition\$59,500



2004 IH WATER TRUCK, 4200 gal stainless steel tank, auto trans, Cummins N14, 370 hp, approximately 635,000 miles\$45,000

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2016 JD S690, Hillco hillside, 2980 eng hrs, 2029 sep hrs, well maintained, great shape\$255,000



JD T670, RAHCO LEVELER, w/JD 625R header, used for alfalfa seed harvesting\$98,500



2012 JD S680 LEVEL LAND COMBINE, DUALS, 2029 sep hrs, w/2012 MacDon 40' D65-S Draper header & cart\$105,000



2012 JOHN DEERE S670 WITH JD 630R HEADER, 3,785 engine hours and 2,804 separator hours. PRWD, straw chopper, tires in good condition, Pre Def machine, Big Top bin extension, stoess header cart.\$99,000

QUADTRACS

- '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
- '18 CASE IH 580Q, 4398 Hours, PowerShift, Deluxe Cab, LED Cab Roof Work Light Package, Single Beacon Light, RH Window Bar Display Ready, Telematics, Cold Weather Starting Aid, True Ground Speed Sensor, High-Capacity Draw Bar, High-Capacity Hydraulic Pump, 6 Electric Remotes, Power Beyond Supply & Return, Hi Capacity Bar w/Diff Lock, Drive Wheel Scrapers, 36" CAMSO Tracks, Front Bumper Weights..... \$224,900

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- '11 NH T8.360, 6150 Hrs, 4WD, Duals, Front Weights, Deluxe Cab, Consigned \$115,000
- '23 CASE IH STEIGER 470 AFS CONNECT, 981 hrs LuxuryPerformanceCab,PowerDrive,EngineBrake,Cold eather Starting Aid, True Ground Speed Radar, RH Armrest, AFS Pro 1200, High-Capacity Pump, Power Beyond Supply & Return, Performance Lighting, Dual Beacon, LED Cap Roof Work Lights, 710/70R42 R1 Duals, Wheel Weights, Ballast Package, Rear Weight Support, Tow Cable \$358,000
- '98 CASE IH 9370Q, 9711 Hours, Powershift, 4 Remotes, Trimble EZ-Steer, FM750, 2000 hours on reman Engine, Good Tracks, Consigned..... \$65,000
- '20 JD 9520RX, 3511 Hrs, 36" Tracks, PTO, High Flow Hydraulics, 5 Valves, Premium Cab, Premium Lighting w/Front and Rear HID Lights, AutoTrac Ready w/4600 Processor, AutoTrac Premium Activation..... \$379,000
- '23 CASE IH STEIGER 500 AFS CONNECT, PowerShift Heavy Duty Version, Engine Brake, Cold Weather Starting Aid, True Ground Speed Radar, RH Armrest AFS Pro 1200, High Capacity Hydraulic Pump, Power Beyond Supply & Return, Performance Lighting, Dual Beacon, LED Cab Roof Work Lights, Luxury Performance Cab, PTO, Hitch Drawbar, 4 Rear Remotes, Parallel Flow Hydraulic, AutoGuidance, Connectivity, Front Ballast, Rear Ballast, Wheel Weights, Rear Weight Support, Tow Cable, 710/70R42 Duals \$399,500
- '22 CASE IH 500W, 1352 Hours, Luxury Cab, Power Drive, HHP, Engine Brake, Cold Weather Starting Aid, True Ground Speed Radar, RH Armrest AFS Pro 1200, High Capacity Hydraulic Pump, Power Beyond Supply and Return, Performance Lighting, Dual Beacon, LED Cab Roof Work Lights, Luxury Performance Cab..... \$379,900
- '22 CASE IH PUMA 150, 668 HRS, Mechanical Cab Suspension, BlueTooth Radio, 2 Tele/Heat/Rem Adjustable Mirrors, ISOBUS Class 3 Speed Control, 200 Amp Alternator, 3 Electronic Rear Remotes, \$171,900

- '12 CASE IH 450W, 4654 Hrs, Luxury Cab, 16 Speed Powershift, 1000 RPM PTO, High Capacity Hydro Pump, 4 Hydraulic Remotes, 710/70R38 Tires, Wheel Weights \$199,900
- '09 Challenger MT655C, 3600 Hrs, 1000 PTO, 3PT, 3 Hyd Outlets, AutoTrac Ready, PowerShift, Front Weights, Tires at 90%, Emissions Elected, Cons \$120,000

UNDER 150-HP

- '14 KUBOTA M59TL, BT 1200 Backhoe, 84" Bucket, 3 Range Hydro- Shuttle, Consigned \$44,900
- '17 NH BOOMER 24, 107 Hrs, 24HP, ROPS, 23x.850 R4 Fronts, 6.5 R4 Rears \$14,900
- '20 Kubota M7060, 1503 Hours, Cab, Loader, SkidSteer Attachment, Rear Diff Locks, 4WD, 2 Rear Remotes, 540 PTO, Front Diverter Valve, Radio, Air, 16.9-30 & 9.5-24 Tires, 12 Speed \$45,900

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- JD 1910, 3 Tank, 12" Conveyer, Tow Between, New Fan Housing, Duals, Single Shoot \$74,900
- JD 1890, 60', 7.5" Spacing, Blockage Monitor \$91,000
- '12 CASE IH PH 800, 50', 12" Centers, 5" Pneumatic Packer Wheels, Precision Opener Mud Scrapers, Bourgault Opener & Points, Cons \$35,000
- '08 JD 455, 35" Box Drills, 7.5" Spacing, 2.13 Press Wheels, 12.5" Discs, Clean Boxes, No Rust, Good Lids..... \$33,900
- '12 CaseIH PH 800/3430, 50', 800 Double Shoot, Loup Elite Blockage Monitor, Seed/Fertilizer Counter on all Runs, Air Cart-3 Bin, 142 BU, 102BU, 186BU, Set Up for Dry Fert, Back Bins Have New RedE Stainless Housing, Front Bin has new Housing, Tubing Manifold Powder Coated, Seed Rolls have Extra Fine, Fine, Course and Extra Course, Cons \$75,000
- '20 CaseIH 3555, TBT Air Cart, 555 Bushels, High Floation-Hydraulic Control, Dlx Auger Screen, 650/75R38 High Float Duals, 8 Run Double Shoot, Light Bar, Bulk Tank Work Lights, Sectional Command, Rear Ladder with Folding Steps, Rear Hitch, Tank Fill Indicator, Tillage Mounted Work Switch \$174,900

BALERS

- '19 NH RB450, 4x5 18M Silage, Endless Belt, Net and Twine, DLX Wrap, 18L16 Tires, Dual Wheels, Manual Hyd Pickup Lift, 5 Bar Reel, Roller Windguard, Clevis Hitch..... \$39,900
- '03 NH 580, 16x18 Bale, Hydraulic Pick-up, Bale Extension, 1/4 Turn Chute, Newer Knotters , Consigned \$13,900
- JD 468, Mega Wide Plus Round Baler, 2151-161 SL Tires, 540 PTO, Twine Only, Wid Picku-up, Monitor \$12,900
- '13 NH BC5080, 16x18 Chute, Hydraulic Swing, Hydraulic Pickup, Light Kit, Bale Extention \$16,900

MOWERS

- JD 630, 1000 PTO, Rotary Disc Mower, Flail Conditioner, 6 Discs, 10' Cutter Bar \$18,900
- JD 946, Mower Conditioner, 13' Cutter Bar, Center Pivot, Flail Conditioner, Hydraulic Angle Adjust, Regular Maintenance, Consigned \$18,500
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SKID STEERS

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- (2) IH 770, 5 Bottom, Auto Reset, Good Tires, New Mold Boards Included, Consigned \$2,595 EA

!!!HEADERS!!!

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- '15 MacDon FD75 -40 \$55,900
- '15 MacDon FD75 -45 \$64,900
- '09 CaseIH 2162 40' Header, Level Land, Slow Speed Transport \$32,900
- '12 CaseIH 2162 40' Header, Adapter for 88/10/20 Series Combines, Hillco Hillside Adapter..... \$43,900
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- '25 SITREX RP3, 3 Wheel Windrow Turner !!NEW!! \$1,530

SPRAYERS/APPLICATORS

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- Summers Sprayer, 1500 Gallon Tank, 200 Gallon Rinse Tank, 120" Boom, Wingout and Boom Controller \$24,900
- '16 CASE IH 4440, 4100 Hours, 120" Boom, AccuBoom Section Control, AutoBoom Height Control, Pro 700, AIM Command, Foam Marker, Alliance 650/65R38 Turf Tread \$154,900
- JD 4940, 3892 Hrs, 120" Boms, 1200 Gallon Tank, GS3 Display, Starfire ITC Receiver, Boom Trac Pro, 11 Sections, Air Suspension \$84,900
- SCHABAU SF.8500, 90' Boom, 1500 Gallon Tank, 100 Gallon Rinse Tank, Triple Nozzle, 5 Section Control, 380/90R46 Tires, AutoBoom Height \$16,900

- '20 JD R4045, 120' Carbon Fiber Booms, Dual Monitor Display, Starfire 6000 Receiver, G4 OS, 120 Gal Tank, Front Load Valve, Stainless Induction, Air Suspension, 620/70R46 Tires, 20" Nozzle Spacing, Backup Camera, LED Light Pkg, Fenders, Premium Command View, Autotrak Guidance, Rowsense, Section Control, Exact Apply Nozzle Control System \$284,900
- '08 CASE IH SPX4420, 6013 Hrs, 100', 6 Section, 1200 Gallon Tank, AIM Command, 5 Turret Nozzles, Front and Side Fill, 650-65 R38 Tires, AutoBoom, Fenders, Active Hyd Susp, Guidance Viper 4 (Ravin) Air Compressor, Extra Set of Tires and Wheels, Cons \$85,000

CHISELS

- '16 ET875, 22' 11 Shank, Sring Reset, Rear Disk Leveler..... \$69,900

HARROWS

- '13 McFarlane WDL-2060-16, 60' 16 Bar Harrow, Old Style Single Wheels on Back..... \$33,900

HILLSIDE COMBINES

- (2) '23 CASE IH 8250, Harvest Command Automation w/Camera, In-Cab Adj Cage Vane Control, Luxury Cab, Pro700 Large Color Touch Screen, Auto-Guidance Nav Controller, LED Light Pkg, Block Heater, Upper Cross Auger Control, GPS Antenna/Receiver, Diff Lock, Grain Tank Cover, Strawhood Attach/Residue Management..... \$674,000
- '04 JD 9760STS, 3607 Sep Hours, 635F Flex Header 914 Pick-up Header, 2970S Hillco Sidehill Leveling System, Beaterless Feeder House Transition, Cons..... \$55,000
- '06 JD 9760STS, 3704 Sep Hrs, 635F Flex Header, 914 Pick-up Header, 2970S Hillco Sidehill Leveling System, Beaterless Feederhouse Transition, Cons..... \$55,000
- '23 CASE IH 8250, Luxury Cab w/Leather Seat, Harvest Command, w/ Camera, Power+ CVT Drive, Yield Monitor, Pro 700 Nav Controller 737 Hrs \$591,500
- '14 CASE IH 8230, 1924 Sep Hours, 520/85R42 Duals, 600/65R58 Rears, Chopper, GPS \$129,900
- '05 CASE IH 8010, 3554 Engine Hours, 4WD, Leveler, '12 CIH 3020 35' Header Included, Cons \$70,000
- CASE IH 1680, 6900 Engine Hours, Hillco 2000 Leveler, Rear Weights, Great Condition, Consigned..... \$12,000
- '25 CASE IH 8260, 249 Sep Hrs, Hillco Leveler, Harvest Command Automation w/Camera, Power+ CVT Drive, Yield Monitor, Lux Cab w/ Leather Seat, Pro 1200 Large Color Touch Screen, Telematics, Ext Wear Rotor w/Spikes, 50' Unloading Auger \$708,500
- '25 CASE IH 9260, Harvest Command Automation w/Camera, Power+ CVT Drive, Yield Monitor, Luxury Cab w/Leather Seat, Pro1200 Large Color Touch Screen, Independent Cross Auger Control \$729,500
- 253 Sep Hrs \$714,500
- 353 Sep Hrs \$714,500
- '21 CASE IH 9250, 1573 HRS Sep Hrs, Luxury Cab, AM/FM/BT Radio, Pro 700, Large Color Touch Screen, Autoguidance Nav Controller, Hillco Lvlr, Command Automation, Power+ CVT Drive w/Feedrate, Yield Monitor, Harvest Command w/Cameras, Auto Cleaning Fan, Block Heater, Independent Cross Auger Control, Diff Lock \$439,900
- '21 CASE IH 8250, 1209 Sep Hrs, Hillside, Lux Cab, Autoguidance, Yield Monitor, HVSTC w/Camera, PowerPlus CVT Drive w/Feedrate, 40' Auger w/ Pivoting Spout, Upper Cross Auger Control, Large Color Touch Screen, Diff Lock, 650/65R38 Duals..... \$524,900
- '23 CaseIH 9250, 497 Sep Hrs, Harvest Command Automation w/ Camera, PowerPlus CVT Drive w/Feedrate, Yield Monitor, Auto Cleaning Fan, In-Cab Adj Cage Vane Control, In-Cab Adj Pre Sieve, Luxury Cab w/Leather Seat, Semi-Active w/Heat and Ventilation, AM/FM/WB/ Bluetooth Radio, Pro 700 Large Color Touch Screen, AutoGuidance Nave Controller, LED Light Pkg, Distance Lights, Engine Block Heater, Cross Auger Control, Diff Lock, Trailer Hitch \$579,900

LEVEL LAND

- '17 CASE IH 8240, 1484 Sep Hrs, Level Land, Duals, 4WD, Chopper, Guid-ance, Folding Auger \$169,900
- '15 CASE IH 9240, 2297 Rotor Hours, Level Land \$149,900
- '02 CASE IH 2388, 3458-Sep-hrs, level land, feeder reverser, single spd hydro, 2WD, 208x42 duals, 184x26 rears, new rub bars, Field Tracker \$19,900
- '13 8230, 2261 Hrs, Header Tilt, Cross Auger Control, Fine Cut Chopper, HID Lights, Diff Lock, AFS Auto Steer, 520 Front Duals, 750/85R42 Rear \$115,900

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Expert: Stripe rust may last whole wheat season

By Matthew Weaver
Capital Press

Stripe rust may last the entire wheat season, longtime USDA research plant pathologist Xianming Chen says.

“It’s a combination of the growth stage and weather conditions,” Chen told Capital Press of the fungus, which impacts wheat and barley. “If the weather becomes dry and hot quickly, that could either stop or slow down (the rust). But when I look at the weather forecast, we have not seen that kind of temperature yet.”

Relatively dry conditions between mid-April and mid-May slowed rust development a little bit, Chen said in his May 31 stripe rust report, but periodical showers and relatively low temperatures in recent weeks have been pushing for the rust to increase further.

Because of a widespread stripe rust infection last fall, high survival rates during the warm winter, early development this spring and relatively low temperatures, which have not allowed the full effect of high-temperature adult-plant resistance, varieties with low to moderate levels of resistance have shown



Stripe rust in an experimental field May 29 near Pullman, Wash. USDA research plant pathologist Xianming Chen said the disease could remain present for the entire wheat season. Xianming Chen/Contributed

more rust levels than the previous year, Chen said in his report.

Field check

The rust has developed very quickly around the Pullman, Wash., area in the last two weeks, Chen said.

For winter wheat, stripe rust control is over for fields of crops after the flowering stage. Fungicide application may still be needed for fields not yet reaching flowering with active rust.

For spring wheat and barley, fun-

gicide application is needed for fields planted with susceptible or moderately susceptible varieties.

“For fields planted with any variety, it is always a good idea to check fields,” Chen wrote in his report. “If active stripe rust is found, consider applying fungicide before rust incidence or severity reaches 5%.”

Chen said his team usually needs to take winter wheat notes mid-June, but needs to take notes this week.

Spring wheat is still early, but early-planted spring wheat has

already reached the boot stage. Stripe rust infections are usually likely a month to six weeks after planting, Chen said.

“We still have time for infection,” he said. “The current weather forecast for the next two to three weeks is still favorable ...”

So far, stripe rust has been reported in Washington, Oregon, California, Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana, Mississippi, Tennessee, Idaho, Nebraska, Virginia, and Kansas, according to Chen’s report.

Remembering 2002 problems

Chen recalled the year 2002. There wasn’t much rust in winter wheat, but stripe rust suddenly developed in spring wheat in the third week of June, due to new rust races and many farmers had planted the soft white variety Zak, which proved highly susceptible to the disease.

“I remember very clearly,” Chen said. “It was the first year Zak was put into commercial production, we had like 170,000 acres grown of that particular variety. That tells us how late the rust can start and develop.”

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New UI tool helps farmers choose ARC or PLC

By Matthew Weaver
Capital Press

A new University of Idaho tool will help wheat farmers determine whether to enroll in the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) or Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs.

Xiaoli Etienne, UI's Idaho Wheat Commission Endowed Chair in Commodity Risk Management, developed the online tool with graduate student JungKeon Jo, whom she credits with "most of the heavy lifting."

"Many producers have never seen this type of level of uncertainty," Etienne told Capital Press. "Any decision tools, I think, would be helpful for producers."

Previously, farmers who wanted to enroll in Supplemental Coverage Option crop insurance policies had to choose PLC, Etienne said. The One Big Beautiful Bill removed the restriction,

so that farmers can choose whichever program they feel best fits their needs.

Typically, farmers select a program in the spring, although this year, it's delayed until the fall, Etienne said.

"In normal years, this tool will have a much greater value because producers will be making a decision without knowing what the yield is," she said.

Even when farmers make their selection, they don't know what the final national marketing year average price will be, Etienne said.

For the 2026 crop, the average price — from June 2026 to May 2027 — is projected to be \$6.50 per bushel, above the threshold for the PLC program to make a payment. If that figure holds — "we still have a year to go until this price finalizes," Etienne said. The ARC County program may best suit farmers, she said.



Xiaoli Etienne, UI's Idaho Wheat Commission Endowed Chair in Commodity Risk Management, is shown in this file photo. Etienne, with the help of graduate student JungKeon Jo, developed an online tool to help wheat farmers determine whether to enroll in the Agriculture Risk Coverage (ARC) or Price Loss Coverage (PLC) programs. (Matthew Weaver/Capital Press)

Market outlook

Etienne said she will be closely monitoring fertilizer prices affected by the war and yield over the next few months.

Wheat prices have increased by 50 cents to \$1, driven by drought conditions in Kansas and the Plains, Etienne said.

"We do see the prices as being on a pretty good upward trajectory," she said.

In the Pacific Northwest, wheat is doing slightly better on yield, but still affected by drought.

"It's not extreme drought yet, but most of the acres are

under severe drought," Etienne said.

How do prices compare to the cost of production?

"That's a tough number," Etienne said.

Farmers may have already locked in fertilizer prices for the 2026 crop before the war with Iran. If yield improves, revenue may increase, but "still the margins will be very very thin."

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High input costs lower farmer sentiment

By Kyle Odegard
Capital Press

Farmer sentiment slipped again in May as high input costs remained producers' top concern, according to the latest edition of the Purdue University-CME Group Ag Economy Barometer.

Roughly two-thirds of producers continue to expect their net farm income to decline in 2026 due to the Iran War, which has resulted in increased fuel and fertilizer costs.

The barometer dipped to 119 points, down from 121 in April.

In May 2025, a few months after President Donald Trump began his second term in office, the score was 158 — the highest mark since May 2021.

The wave of optimism has mostly receded, with recent marks slightly above pessimistic scores from the previous administration.

Only 52% of producers thought the U.S. was headed in the "right direction" in May, down from 57% in April and the lowest

response since the question was first asked during the July barometer survey.

For the second half of 2025, the average to that question, which encompasses far more than agriculture, was 71%, with a high of 75% in December.

The May barometer survey, conducted May 11-15, included 400 farmers from across the country.

Respondents include corn, soybean, wheat and cotton growers and producers of beef cattle, hogs and dairy.

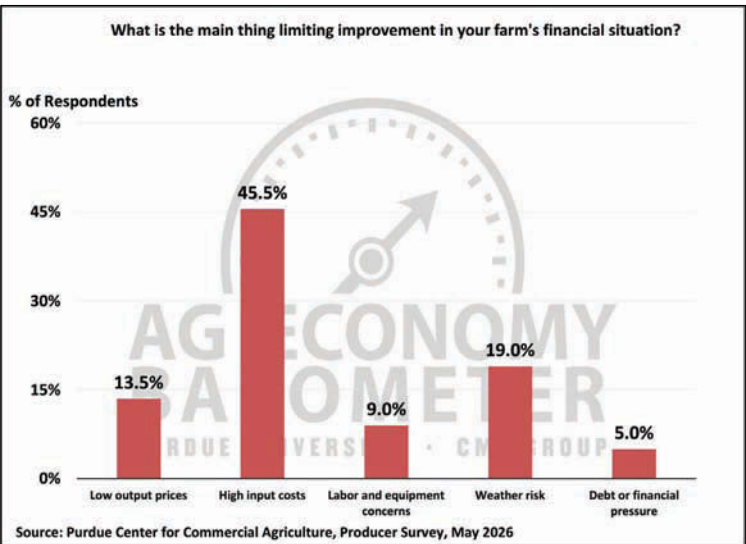
Inputs constrain farm financials

The percentage of producers who listed high input costs as their biggest concern was 51% this May, a new high.

In a related question, nearly 46% of respondents said high input costs are limiting improvements in their financial position this year.

That was the most frequently cited constraint by far.

Weather risk was second at 19%, followed by low



output prices at 14%, labor and equipment concerns at 9% and debt or financial pressure at 5%.

Roughly half of corn growers expected their corn breakeven prices to increase by up to 6%. About 17% expected breakeven prices to increase by 6-9% and 30% anticipated them to increase by 10% or more.

Difficulty hiring farm labor

The barometer survey periodically includes questions about farm labor.

In May, about 39% of respondents said they hire non-family members to

work on their agricultural operations.

Of those who hire labor, roughly 44% had some or a lot of difficulty hiring this year.

Most respondents, 59%, said artificial intelligence tools would not improve their current labor and equipment situation, while 37% said it would help some and 4% said it would help a lot.

Few farmers think they're better off

The barometer's Current Conditions Index fell by 8 points to 107, the lowest score since December 2024.

Only 14% of survey respondents said their farm operations were better off in May than a year ago.

About 22% said they expect their farm to be better off financially a year from now.

Roughly 37% of producers expected good times over the next five years — that figure was 31% for crop growers and 68% for live-stock producers.

Farmers indicated a decline in willingness to make large investments but were more optimistic regarding both short-term and long-term land values.



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3806 N 3600 E, Kimberly
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- Weed control demos in alfalfa, corn, dry bean, mustard, sugar beet & wheat
- Palmer amaranth & water-hemp updates
- Irrigation, silage, potato production & insects
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Questions? Contact
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2019 Freightliner M2 106 Box Truck 26ft box truck, Cummins 6.7L diesel, automatic, 248,652 miles, 25,500 GVWR, no CDL required, \$38,000. Portland, OR. Call 971-515-8525. eagletruckdeals@gmail.com



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316 Trailers Misc.



1966 Utility Flatbed Trailer: 48ft long, 8ft wide, 3 axles, \$9500. 1995 34ft long, 8ft wide pull trailer, 4 axles, \$9999. Athol, ID. No Text. Calls only. 208-651-8698



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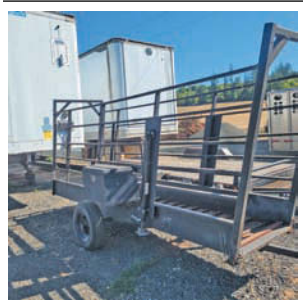
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John Deere 2023 L341 Baler: 5000 bales, moisture checker, auto lube. \$115,000. Hermiston, OR. 360-749-3606

911 Hay Equipment

Kuhn Model SR112 Gill Hay Rake: used one season. Like New, \$9000. 2005 Hesston 1270 pull behind swather. Used one season, \$7000. Lake View, OR. 559-906-1234



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Good condition for its age. Newer tires, wheel bearings & seat. 5165 hours. More pics online. \$36,000. Springdale, WA. 509-276-0540 No Sunday Calls



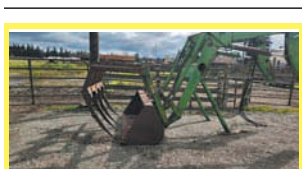
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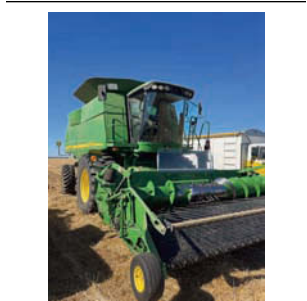


Crippen Model H-542 & Jem; ESP GB-32
Crippen Model H-542 seed cleaner in good operating condition with many screen sizes. \$4500 OBO. Jem International Scale bagger with Sew built in. Large hopper, \$2000 OBO. Sequim, WA. 360-301-3555 glbarron@olympus.net

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John Deere 9760 STS Bullet Rotor Combine: 16ft belt pick up header. 2876 engine hours, 2216 separator hours. Green-Star Ready, Extensive refurbishment. Excellent Condition, \$44,900. Halsey, OR 541-729-6229



2005 John Deere 9660 Walker Combine: Rahco Leveler. 3837 engine hours, 3062 cylinder hours, 4WD, high inertia cylinder. New rasp bars, 200 hours. Less than 100 hours on brand new rear axle. Spare tire for front, 2013 625F auger flex header, McDon PW7 Swath-Master pick up header, \$75,000 OBO.
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The Growers' Guide

Risk period for big Western fires arriving early

By **BRAD CARLSON**
Capital Press

The high-risk period for big wildfires in the West is coming early in many locations as summer's expected above-normal temperatures and below-normal rainfall follow paltry snowpack and a largely dry May.

"From the current and forecast conditions, above-normal significant fire potential is forecast across much of the West in June," including in most of the greater Four Corners area, the central Great Basin, the inland Northwest and northern California, according to the National Interagency Fire Center's June-September outlook released June 1. Parts of central and southern California will have above-normal potential, particularly at lower elevations.

Above-normal temperatures are expected in June in the Northwest and across much of the West in June, according to outlooks



The Crown Creek Fire in northeastern Washington, September 2025. Significant fire potential is expected to increase in the Pacific Northwest in June, according to the National Interagency Fire Center outlook. Washington Department of Natural Resources/ Contributed

issued in late May by the National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center and NIFC Predictive Services.

Transitioning into summer, above-normal temperatures are likely across the West Coast, and precipitation likely will be below normal in the Northwest, according to the NIFC

wildfire outlook.

In July, the potential for large wildfires will return to normal for central and southern California. Above-normal potential likely will persist across northern California and the Inland Northwest while spreading into more of the northern Great Basin, north Idaho panhandle, south-

west Montana, southwest Oregon and northwest Washington.

For August, potential will persist in much of the Northwest while spreading to all of western Washington and Oregon, and all of the Idaho panhandle, according to NIFC. In September, potential is expected to remain above

normal across much of the Northwest but return to normal in the Idaho panhandle and Utah.

An El Nino weather pattern, associated with warmer, drier conditions in the Northwest, is expected to develop in June and persist into fall and winter. CPC forecasts a greater than 40% chance of a strong El Nino by August or September, and a greater than 35% chance of a very strong El Nino by late fall and winter.

"Our fuels are ready for a pretty big season, so even normal summer weather conditions would lead to an above-normal season right now," said Jim Wallmann, U.S. Forest Service meteorologist at NIFC.

"We're already seeing indicators the timber is stressed because we're getting high-elevation timber fires like two months earlier than normal," he said.

"Everything is lining up as far as the background

See WILDFIRES, Page B9

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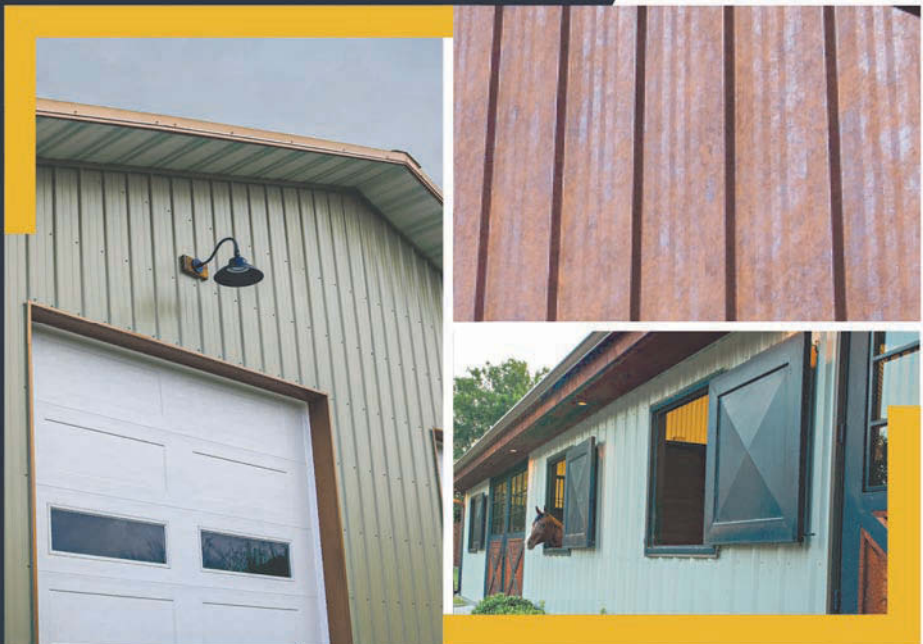
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Wildfires:

continued from B8

conditions and background fuels we have,” Wallmann said. “If we have really fire-effective weather, the season is going to be extremely busy.”

Peak season possibly will not be as heavy as feared, such as if favorable individual weather events occur or a couple of phases of monsoonal moisture come at the right time, he said. “The chances of that happening are quite low.”

Northwest

Significant fire potential is expected to increase in June, according to the NIFC outlook. A shift to above-normal potential is expected in eastern areas as live fuels cure, dead fuels dry and early snow water equivalent loss exposes high-elevation fuels ahead of schedule. Risk should remain normal in June on the west side as green-up continues, with drying accelerating during warm periods.

Above-normal potential for large wildfires

likely will spread in July as fuel curing on the west side concludes. Parts of the high Cascades will see increased vulnerability from early snowmelt.

Northern California

The potential for large fires is projected to be near to above normal during June and mainly above normal, except in a couple of coastal areas, from July through September.

Herbaceous green-up was mixed in May. Curing was most pronounced below 1,500 feet, away from the coast, while noticeable green-up was found higher. An exception was cheatgrass, partially to mostly cured across most elevations due to the unusually early start to the

growing season.

Southern California

Above-normal temperatures and dry conditions likely will cause the potential for significant fires to be above normal across lower elevations in June. Otherwise, potential is expected to be near normal through September.

Northern Rockies

May brought better precipitation along and west of the Continental Divide — but the Jericho Creek Fire in west-central Montana supported concerns that the low winter snowpack could lead to early fire activity at high elevations.

In July, lower elevations in northern Idaho

are expected to shift into above-normal potential due to forecast above-normal temperatures and below-normal precipitation.

Confidence in the region’s outlook is moderate, according to NIFC. While the transition to El Nino typically supports near-normal fire seasons in the region, unusually low snowpack and a mild January and February limit the value of historical comparisons. Some areas could have more dead fuels and decreased suppression access following blow-downs from December into February.

Northern Great Basin

Parts of northern Nevada and southern Idaho have

pockets of carryover fuels from the past two years. Heavy rain in southwest Idaho in early April prompted significant growth of grass, expected to cure quickly in June, according to NIFC.

Fire activity increased recently, including several fires of 1,000 to 7,000 acres in southern Idaho and northern Nevada. Some have burned in heavier fuels and timber at higher elevations, unusual for late May.

Above-normal potential for large fires is expected across many southern and central areas of the Great Basin in June. Above-normal potential will spread north into Idaho and Wyoming by mid to late summer.

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Farmer takes reins as Oregon grass seed negotiator

By Mateusz Perkowski
Capital Press

A single penny may not sound like much, but Garth Mulkey wants farmers to remember that it adds up to "real money" in grass seed negotiations.

Over the past thirty harvest seasons, Mulkey estimates that earning just one more cent per pound of grass seed could've netted him roughly \$1 million in an interest-bearing investment account.

"When a seed dealer says, 'Can you grow for a penny less?' It's really easy to say yes, because you

want to keep a good relationship. You don't want to make waves," he said. "As a grower, we just don't have a whole bunch of leverage, especially when times are tough."

Such calculations are top of mind for Mulkey now that he's retiring from farming after being hired as the executive director of the Oregon Grass Seed Bargaining Association.

The problem is that OGSBA doesn't currently have much opportunity for haggling with seed dealers, who haven't engaged in price negotiations with Oregon's grass seed farmers for



Garth Mulkey is the new executive director of the Oregon Grass Seed Bargaining Association. (Mateusz Perkowski/Capital Press)

the second year in a row.

Mulkey said this unwillingness to negotiate likely stems from foreign- or investor-owned companies not understanding or agreeing with the state's

traditional way of doing business.

"It takes leverage out of dealers' hands and gives it to growers," he said.

Seed dealers would prefer to be more flexible with grass seed prices, as demonstrated last year by DLF USA, the local division of a multinational company based in Denmark, he said.

"I suspect all dealers would like to be able to make their own financial decisions, and if there's no OGSBA price, then there's nothing holding them to that," Mulkey said.

DLF USA was accused

by the Oregon Department of Agriculture of paying 12 cents per pound below the contract price for tall fescue seed, but the enforcement action was eventually dropped after it made additional payments to growers.

Mark Simmons, OGSBA's former executive director who retired earlier this year, said the DLF controversy derailed negotiations by undermining confidence in their purpose among seed dealers.

"Does the price really mean anything or does it

See Grass seed, Page B11

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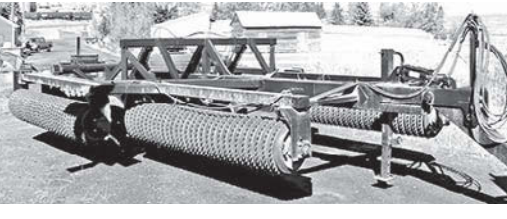
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Grass seed:

continued from B10

not? That was a logical response from the dealers,” Simmons said. “If the price really doesn’t mean anything, and a dealer can pay whatever he thinks he wants to pay, then why come and negotiate?”

Realistically, dealers may not be willing to return to the negotiating table until grass seed inventories become depleted — at which point, they’ll want to lock in prices before they rise significantly, Mulkey said.

“But when we’ve got too much seed, the marketers are reluctant to set a floor because it might go lower,”

he said.

As it stands, there’s still “excess seed” in the industry, but the surplus isn’t as overwhelming as it’s been in recent years and certain varieties, such as Kentucky-31 fescue, are moving out of warehouses at a healthy clip, Mulkey said.

Though bargaining with dealers isn’t likely in the immediate future, Mulkey doesn’t plan to sit on his hands as OGSBA’s new executive director.

The organization’s future may be as an “information-sharing group,” which allows farmers to better understand their market position by gathering data on acreage and production, he said.

Currently, the lack of solid supply statistics make farmers liable to over-plant grass seed fields, Mulkey said. If acreage needs to rise by 10%, for example, growers can over-correct and increase planting by 20%, ending up with another surplus.

“As a grower, sometimes you get caught in your neighborhood and you really don’t know what’s going on in one county over,” he said. “We can strengthen the grower hand with information, so they can make better decisions.”

Mulkey has been filming videos apprising farmers on contracting and other issues, and hopes the grass seed industry will be willing

to adopt “best practices” for contracts to dispel the ambiguity that currently bedevils such agreements.

“We would like to find a better way of doing business,” he said. “We haven’t found a way to do that yet.”

Currently, contracts often only specify a “market price” or “mutually agreed upon price,” which is prone to varying interpretations that often disadvantage growers, he said.

“I’ve got one on my desk, on page one, it does say, ‘price to be mutually agreed upon.’ On page two, it says, if the grower and the dealer can’t mutually agree on the price, the company will issue a plow out order. Talk

about leverage,” Mulkey said.

Improving information-sharing and contract terms aren’t new concepts in the grass seed industry, but steps are clearly needed to smooth out the status quo of sharply rising and falling prices, he said.

“Would it be easy? Probably not. Is it easy now? Heck no,” he said.

For his part, Simmons is hopeful that his replacement will be able to make progress on collaboration between growers and dealers — and grateful that he’s no longer charged with the task.

“I’m happy that I’m not in it anymore,” he said.





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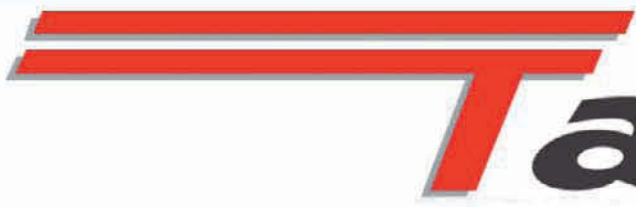
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Washington Supreme Court to hear Grant County farmer's appeal

By Don Jenkjins
Capital Press

The Washington Supreme Court has agreed to hear the appeal of a Grant County farmer who's been embroiled in a nine-year battle with the Department of Ecology.

The court decided June 2 to hear Ron Fode's claims that Ecology wrongly said he missed a deadline to apply to transfer water-rights and compounded its error by rushing to fine him \$618,000 in 2017 for irrigating without a permit.

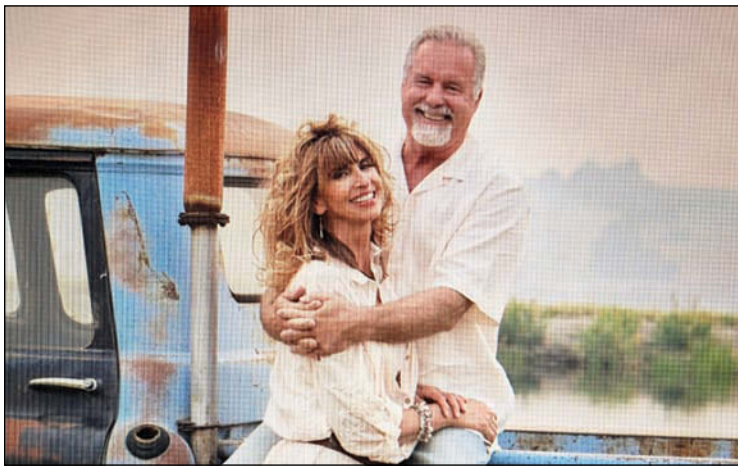
Ecology had asked the court to reject the case, arguing it presented no

public issue of importance. Fode's attorneys, however, argued the case presents two issues of statewide importance:

Was Ecology's application deadline for water-right changes a rule adopted without public notice?

And did the department comply with a law requiring it to identify one or more ways to bring an irrigator into compliance before issuing fines?

"He should have been allowed to apply for a permit," Pacific Legal Foundation attorney Luke Wake said. "They can't just say,



The Washington Supreme Court will hear attorneys for Grant County, Wash., farmer Ron Fode, shown with wife, Robin, argue the Department of Ecology wrongly fined him for irrigating without a permit. (Fode family/contributed)

"There's nothing we can do. Go pound sound." "

The department maintains it followed the technical-assistance law by telling Fode to not irrigate.

Ecology calls the application deadline a "flexible office policy" that didn't need to go through the formal rule-writing process.

Fode's appeal drew sup-

port from farm groups, business organizations and municipal water system managers. They argued Ecology's interpretation makes the technical-assistance law meaningless and urged the court to take up the case.

"We need clarity about what 'technical assistance' means," Wake said.

The Pollution Control Hearings Board reduced Fode's fine to \$260,000, but ruled Ecology followed the law.

Fode testified he continued to irrigate after Ecology ordered him to stop because he had contracts to grow hay, alfalfa and potatoes and thought he could work something out.

An appeals court also upheld the fine. The Supreme Court has not set a hearing date.



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Trump cuts tariffs on tractors, combines, other farm equipment

By Don Jenkins
Capital Press

President Trump has lowered tariffs on tractors, combines and other farm equipment to 15% from 25% as part of modifying tariffs on steel, aluminum and copper.

Tariffs on steel, aluminum and copper remain in place, but Trump signed a proclamation June 1 cutting tariffs for some products made of those materials, including heating, cooling and ventilation systems, and mobile industrial equipment.

The tariff cuts should spur investments in agriculture, housing and manufacturing without jeopardizing the overall goal of reviving the steel, aluminum and copper industries, according to the White House.



President Trump speaks before signing an executive order imposing tariffs on April 2, 2025. The administration has announced that tariffs on farm equipment will be cut to 15% from 25% on June 8. (White House/Contributed)

“These products also serve an important role in productive domestic economic activity,” the proclamation states.

Trump signed the tariff-reducing

proclamation June 1. The lower tariffs take effect June 8.

The tariff reduction comes as farms face rising input costs and tight margins, American Soy-

bean Association President Scott Metzger said in a statement.

“Lowering costs on critical equipment and parts is a positive step for soybean farmers and all of agriculture,” he said.

John Deere reported that tariffs and retaliatory tariffs cost the company \$600 million in 2025. The Illinois-based manufacturer assembles most of its equipment in the U.S., but also imports products from Europe, Mexico, India and Japan, according to filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Deere paid some of the tariffs because it moved production of small-frame skid steer loaders to Mexico, according to SEC filings.

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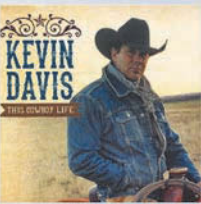
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Idaho urges Supreme Court to shore up Sackett ruling

By Don Jenkins
Capital Press

Idaho and 22 other states are asking the Supreme Court to side with a Connecticut farmer who is fighting allegations by the Environmental Protection Agency that he filled in wetlands.

The EPA's prosecution of Jeffrey Andrews, who raises poultry and cattle, violates the court's 2023 Sackett v. EPA decision, which sought to define "waters of the United States," the states claim.

A District Court judge and the 2nd Circuit Court of Appeals ruled Andrews violated the Clean Water Act by filling in 13 acres of wetlands without a permit. The wetlands connect to a stream when it rains, according to court records.

Andrews and the states argue the Sackett decision requires the connection to be continuous. The states said in a friend-of-the-court brief that lower courts should be reminded "the act does not extend to everywhere water

might be."

"Sackett resolved a decades-long argument," the states assert. "Yet lower courts still stretch the Clean Water Act's scope."

The court hasn't decided whether to take up the case. The Justice Department initially declined to take a position on Andrews' petition.

At the court's request, however, Solicitor General D. John Sauer recommended against hearing the appeal. U.S. attorneys said a ruling now would muddy the EPA's



Idaho and 22 other states are asking the Supreme Court to overturn a lower court ruling that found a Connecticut farmer violated the Clean Water Act by filling in wetlands. The states argue the ruling ignored the Supreme Court's Sackett v. EPA decision. (USDA/Contributed)

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ongoing efforts to write a rule complying with Sackett.

In the Sackett decision, the Supreme Court sought to clarify which wetlands require a federal permit to work in. The court said wetlands should be "indistinguishable" from permanent water bodies, such as streams, rivers and lakes.

The EPA took enforcement action against Andrews in 2020, prior to the Sackett ruling. The lower court decisions, however, came after the ruling.

Andrews' attorneys argue the high court should summarily overturn the circuit court. And the EPA and Army Corps of Engineers should be told to follow Sackett, the attorneys said in a brief. "This case provides the court with the right vehicle for making that happen," the brief reads.

If justices take up the case, the court may choose to clarify the scope of its Sackett ruling, according to a post by the National Agricultural Law Center.

The EPA and Corps may benefit from more instruction from the court, according to Andrews' attorneys. "Notwithstanding Sackett's clear terms, the agencies appear uncertain about what Sackett requires," the attorneys stated.

The District Court ordered Andrews to restore the wetlands, but held off imposing a fine. The fine could be as much as \$2 million, according to court records.

West Virginia and Nebraska state attorneys general headed up the 23-state coalition supporting Andrews. Idaho Attorney General Raul Labrador signed onto the brief.

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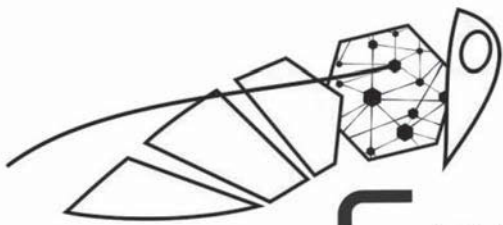
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Cherry virus hits Oregon's Columbia Gorge

By Kyle Odegard
Capital Press

THE DALLES, Ore. — Oregon Columbia River Gorge cherry growers face an epidemic of tomato ringspot virus, which stunts fruit development, reduces harvests and eventually kills trees.

“In these economic times, it’s just a thing that squeezes you out of business. You lose size, you’re losing money. You lose yield, you’re losing money,” said Scott Harper, a Washington State University plant virologist.

The virus, which is spread by nematodes, was discussed during the annual Oregon State University Extension Service preharvest cherry tour on May 27.

“You’ve all probably got

this. Let me know if you want me to look. ... It’s incredibly widespread,” said Ashley Thompson, OSU extension tree fruit horticulturalist, who led the tour.

Thompson believes the virus is worse on the Oregon side of the Gorge than in other regions because nematodes proliferate in the loose but slightly moist soil.

Mike Omege, Orchard View Farms director of operations, said tomato ringspot virus was the top cause of loss in the field, particularly for older blocks.

Tomato ringspot virus can hide in 200 different plants, including common weeds, and because it is spread by nematodes, it is difficult to treat once established, experts said.

The tiny worms can live deeper in the soil than fumigation reaches, and treating cherry trees alone isn’t effective, as nematodes can become infected through other plants.

Early detection and management can control the disease’s spread.

Once it is rampant, the only solution is to “nuke” orchards by ripping out trees, replacing weeds with non-host plants such as Sudangrass, fumigating and then replanting after a few years.

“Give the nematodes nothing to work with,” Harper said.

Replacing orchards is unfeasible for many tree fruit farmers, who are suffering through high production costs and low returns, said Ian Chandler, Oregon



Ashley Thompson, left, Oregon State University Extension Service tree fruit horticulturalist, discusses tomato ringspot virus during a preharvest cherry tour on May 27 along with Scott Harper, Washington State University plant virologist. “You’ve all probably got this. Let me know if you want me to look. ... It’s incredibly widespread,” Thompson told growers. (Kyle Odegard/Capital Press)

Sweet Cherry Commission chairman.

Growers may limp along until blocks become unproductive or remove trees but let the ground go fallow until finances improve.

“No one can afford to replant even if you need to,” Chandler said.

Devon Wade of Wade & Rufener Orchards was able to replant a block of Chelan cherries thanks to the USDA Farm Service Agency’s Tree Assistance Program.

Diseases more prominent in other areas, such as cherry X-disease, are easier to eradicate compared to tomato ringspot virus, he said.

“It’s the slow death of a block,” Wade added.

The virus can take up to 10 years before orchards show symptoms and often kills trees within 20 years.

That timeline can accel-

erate if the disease is widespread in orchards.

Telltale signs include blank wood in tree centers, stray bare branches, pom pom like growths at the end of limbs and scaly bumps on the underside of leaves called enations.

“Once you get your eye on looking for this kind of stuff, you see them everywhere,” Harper said.

Experts said it’s unclear how the virus originated in the Gorge, but it has probably been there for a long time.

The disease can be spread by grafting or through nursery product.

The virus can incubate in grapes, which it doesn’t affect much, resurfacing during vineyard to orchard transitions.

Apple trees also can be killed by tomato ringspot virus.



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M3 Works COO talks Idaho snowpack modeling

By **BRAD CARLSON**
Capital Press

To the snowpack modelers at M3 Works, every flake is important.

The Boise-area business works with the Natural Resources Conservation Service to expand on data from established measurement sites in river basins. Ideally, what emerges is a basin-wide estimate of the snowpack volume and value.

Mark Robertson is M3 chief operating officer and co-owner. He has been with the company for four years. Previously he worked as a hydrologist for the NRCS Idaho Snow Survey and as a hydrologic technician for the USDA Agricultural Research Service.

At the Idaho Water Users Association Water Law and Resources Issues Seminar June 1-2 in Sun Valley, he is scheduled to deliver a presentation titled, "Insights from an Unusual Winter and a Path Forward with Snowpack Modeling and Remote Sensing."

CP: What are you working on in the Boise River Basin? What is the project's overall goal? Are you working in other Idaho basins?

MR: We are working in collaboration with NRCS to better estimate how much snow is in the mountains and how much of that snow



M3 Works COO and co-owner Mark Robertson. (M3 Works/Contributed)

will ultimately become water in reservoirs like Lucky Peak and Arrowrock each spring. To do this, we combine a physically based snowpack model developed at M3 Works with the point measurements collected by NRCS at SNOTEL (snow telemetry) sites.

The model has been refined through years of collaboration with NRCS and other organizations involved in snow measurement and water resources research, and it's an exciting time to see these different sources of information being integrated together. We are applying this work in about 30 basins across the western U.S., including Idaho's Upper Snake and Clearwater basins.

CP: What have you found so far in the water year that began Oct. 1? How do these findings

compare to those of an earlier period?

MR: This winter produced historically low snowpack conditions across much of the West, including in the Boise Basin. In most of Idaho, total precipitation was near normal but warmer-than-normal temperatures meant that more of that precipitation fell as rain instead of snow.

Our modeling suggested that basin-wide snow conditions were notably lower than what the SNOTEL network alone indicated, because the model represents snowpack conditions across the entire basin rather than only at individual measurement sites. Below roughly 7,000 feet elevation, snowpack conditions were the lowest since

1980.

CP: How do M3's evaluation method and findings differ from those of other organizations? Does your work complement other organizations' work and even draw on it to an extent?

MR: Our work builds on collaboration and research with organizations including NRCS and groups involved in airborne snow measurement campaigns, where aircraft use lasers to map snow depth across mountain basins. Those datasets have helped improve and validate the snowpack model we use at M3 Works.

What makes our approach different is that we combine multiple sources of informa-

See M3, Page C6



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Anderson Hay is seeking permission from a bankruptcy judge to give it authority to make payments to growers throughout the season in an effort to assure farmers they will be paid for forage currently being harvested. (Dan Wheat/Capital Press file_

Hay:

continued from C5

committee. “What they’re going to be doing and who they’re going to contract with is critically important. For the debtor, if they want to have the growers’ support, it is going to be very similar to the beginning of the case, when we teed up the assumption of the grower contracts for last year’s harvest.”

PGIM Real Estate Finance, a major creditor that’s owed about \$15 million, is hopeful to work out a deal with Anderson Hay about the longer-term cash collateral authorization, though the length of that permission remains a “sticky issue,” said Peter Roberts, an attorney for the company.

“I’m optimistic we can work through our differences,” he said.

A hearing about Anderson Hay’s use of cash collateral was rescheduled from June 4 until June 17, but

James Day, its attorney, said growers should not interpret this as an indication that permission for crop payments will come in “fits and starts.”

“We are doing everything we can to create certainty in their minds that when we do place orders and take delivery of product, under circumstances where payment is due the month following delivery, that their payments will actually be made,” Day said.

U.S. Bankruptcy Judge Whitman Holt, who is overseeing Anderson Hay’s case, agreed there appears to be a need for a significantly longer usage period for the company’s cash collateral.

The judge also approved a recent motion for Anderson Hay to sell its straw-compressing facility in Aurora, Ore., for \$8 million to entrepreneurs who hope to revive Oregon’s flax textile industry, as well as the sale of associated equipment for \$640,000 to another forage exporter.

The judge originally approved the sale of that 26-acre property for \$10.75 million, but the flax entrepreneurs had to renegotiate that agreement because they were unable to obtain financing for the initial purchase price.

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M3:

continued from C3

tion, including ground-based SNOTEL observations, weather data, and physically based snowpack modeling,

to estimate conditions across the entire basin rather than only at individual measurement sites. That becomes especially important in winters like this one, when warm temperatures can create large

differences in snow conditions across elevations and aspects.

The work is complementary to what other organizations are doing, including NRCS. The goal is to provide

an additional layer of information that can help improve understanding of basin-wide snowpack and, ultimately, water supply forecasting.

CP: What is the targeted benefit of the work and its approach? Are the project's approach and findings valuable in a unique way?

MR: The ultimate goal of the project is to be able to more accurately predict how much water will end up in the reservoirs when the snowpack melts each spring. Something like 80% of the water we receive in Idaho, and across the West, falls as snow in the winter. The better we understand how much snow there is in the snowpack, the better we understand how much will be available for farmers every summer.

While that's not something that most people think about on a daily basis, winters like this one make it extremely difficult to know how much water will be available and what kinds of crops to plant. The NRCS is focused on improving their forecasts of how much water will be available every year, and our collaboration with them is another step in that direction.

CP: What are a couple of key findings from your work in the Boise River Basin in the current water year? What will you emphasize to the Idaho Water Users Association seminar audience?

MR: Along with the fact that there were record-break-

ing low snowpack levels this winter, especially below about 7,000 feet, we are seeing how adding a snowpack model can help improve water supply forecasts. At the higher elevations in most parts of Idaho there actually was a good snowpack — the backcountry skiers who ventured beyond Pilots Peak probably enjoyed that. But there isn't a lot of area at the highest elevations, and so it doesn't contribute as much to the snowpack.

One of the central points we'd like to share is that the water resources community is beginning to take advantage of the additional information about the wintertime snowpack that is available now. We are making large steps forward, and it's exciting to see the collaboration with groups like the NRCS and others. We work directly with several state and federal agencies that are involved with water resources management, and there is a lot of momentum to leverage this kind of technology now.

CP: Is there anything that you would like to add?

MR: This same approach, combining modeling with measurements and remote sensing, also helps reservoir operators be better prepared for flood conditions. We were able to directly help several basins avoid costly flooding scenarios in the 2023 winter, which was an extremely deep snowpack in many places, by providing an early warning system.



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Deere faces new equipment repair lawsuit

By Don Jenkins
Capital Press

John Deere has been hit with another antitrust lawsuit, accusing it of monopolizing repair services for its construction and forestry equipment.

The lawsuit mirrors allegations by farmers and the Federal Trade Commission that Deere withholds computer software needed to fix on-board electronics on large agricultural equipment.

Like owners of tractors and combines, owners of bulldozers, backhoes, skidders and other heavy equipment are forced to patronize Deere dealers for repairs and parts, the lawsuit claims.

Deere said in an email it supported its customers' ability to maintain and repair their equipment. "We remain committed to offering tools, resources and solutions that help customers keep their machines running safely, reliably and efficiently," the company said.

Deere has been dogged for years by allegations that it uses anticompetitive tactics to steer repair business for commercial farm equipment to its authorized dealers.

The Illinois-based company denies the allegations, but recently agreed to pay \$99 million to settle a class-action lawsuit brought on behalf of more than 200,000 farm equipment owners.



Deere and the FTC are negotiating a settlement to the government's antitrust lawsuit, also related to large agricultural equipment, according to court records.

New allegations

The new lawsuit, filed by a Chicago landscaper, Christy Webber & Company, seeks compensation for Deere customers who bought repair services and parts for construction and forestry equipment in the past four years. The lawsuit was filed in the U.S. District Court for Northern Illinois, the same venue as the lawsuits over farm equipment.

"The focus of antitrust enforcement against Deere to date has concerned the agricultural community," according to the lawsuit. "Few have noted the impact of similar anticompetitive restrictions in another massive segment of Deere's business."

The 77-page complaint accuses Deere of taking "half measures" to mollify critics and stave off right-to-repair legislation.

The company sold inferior diagnostic software to equipment owners and independent repair shops, but withheld a "fully functional tool"

needed to repair all electronics, the lawsuit alleges.

Deere allegedly sought to tighten control over software by consolidating dealers, pushing out single-shop dealers and creating a "captive ecosystem" of larger dealers, the lawsuit claims.

Six dealers control roughly

40% of Deere's dealership network, according to the lawsuit. With fewer options for services, customers are forced to pay more and wait longer for repairs, the lawsuit alleges.

Deere has 2,050 dealers, with 450 selling construction or forestry equipment,

according to the company's most-recent annual report.

In a May earnings statement, Deere reported that net sales and revenues worldwide totaled \$22.98 billion in the past six months, including \$6.46 billion from its construction and forestry division.

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Judge approves \$87.5 million beef antitrust settlement

By Mateusz Perkowski
Capital Press

A federal judge has approved settlement deals in a lawsuit accusing the beef packers Cargill and Tyson Foods of violating state and federal antitrust laws.

Cargill and Tyson have agreed to pay a collective \$87.5 million to consumers and their attorneys as part of their settlement agreements, which a federal judge has determined are “fair, reasonable and adequate” under legal rules for class action cases.

Tyson has agreed to pay \$55 million while Cargill has agreed to pay \$32.5 mil-

lion, with the deals being “entitled to a presumption of fairness” after having been “negotiated at arm’s length,” said U.S. District Judge John Tunheim of Minneapolis, Minn.

The settlements provide “substantial relief” for affected consumers, who bought certain cuts of beef from Cargill or Tyson between 2014 and 2019, with the “complexity and expense of further litigation” weighing in favor of a resolution at this stage, the judge said.

“Questions of law or fact common to class members predominate over any ques-



Cargill and Tyson have agreed to pay a collective \$87.5 million to consumers and their attorneys as part of their settlement agreements in a class-action suit, which a federal judge has determined are “fair, reasonable and adequate” under legal rules for class action cases. USDA/Contributed

tions affecting only individual members, and a class action is superior to other methods for fairly and efficiently adjudicating the

controversy,” the settlement approval ruling said.

Though several consumers affected by the lawsuit raised objections against the

deals, the judge said these complaints did not warrant blocking the settlements.

For example, the judge said arguments that the settlements “do not provide adequate relief” are “mistaken,” and rejected claims that insufficient numbers of consumers are aware of the deals, based on direct emails and website impressions.

Another objection claimed that the settlements don’t address the “long-term nutritional deficit and health impacts” from selling unaffordable beef, but the judge said that antitrust laws aren’t focused on nutritional matters.

“Furthermore, increasing competition in the beef market will result in lower prices or greater supply of beef products,” the ruling said. “And enforcement of the antitrust laws is the best way for the legal system to ensure beef prices remain competitive.”

Under the terms of the deals, attorneys for the plaintiffs are entitled to more than \$38 million of the total settlement amount in fees and litigation expenses.

The judge approved the attorney fees and litigation costs partly due to the “considerable risk” involved in pursuing the case, as the attorneys could have recovered nothing from the “tens of thousands of hours” they invested in the lawsuit.

Also, Cargill and Tyson have agreed to “assist in the prosecution of the claims” against the remaining defendants in the case — JBS USA, Swift Beef, JBS Pack-erland and National Beef Packing — which will provide “significant value” to the plaintiffs, the judge said.

Generally, awarding attorney fees in antitrust cases provides a public benefit by encouraging attorneys to “vindicate public policy” by filing class action lawsuits, the ruling said.

The lawsuit, which was filed in 2022, accused the beef packer defendants of maximizing profits by “extracting all gains from the ranchers who raised the cattle, as well as artificially inflating the price of beef being sold to the consumer.”



'23 CASE IH 8250, 520 Hrs, Harvest Command, 4WD, Chopper, Duals, Lux Cab, #1010.....\$425,000



'21 CASE IH MAXXUM 135 ACT 8, 800 hrs, MFD, 3pt, PTO, #1342.....\$135,000



'23 CASE IH 9250 HILLSIDE COMBINE, 755 hrs, Harvest Command, Chopper, Duals, Lux Cab, #1055\$550,000



'22 CASE IH MAGNUM 280 AFS CONCT CVT, 1200 hrs, MFD, Susp Axle, PTO, #1383.....\$280,000



'08 CASE IH STEIGER 435Q, 8120 hrs, Lux Cab, 30" Tracks, 4 Remotes, #1387.....\$150,000

USED TRACKED TRACTORS

- '24 CASE IH 555Q CVX, AFS CONNECT, 1180 hrs, PTO, 36" Tracks, 6 Rmt, HO pump, Lux cab#.....\$525,000
- '24 CASE IH 525Q AFS CONNECT, 1325 hrs, PTO, 36" Tracks, 6 Rmt, HO pump, Lux cab#1445.....\$515,000
- '23 CASE IH 540Q AFS CONNECT, 1300 hrs, PTO, 36" Tracks, 6 Rmt, HO Pump, Lux Cab, #1426.....\$495,000
- '23 CASE IH 500Q AFS CONNECT, 1800 hrs, PTO, 36" Tracks, 6 Rmt, HO Pump, Lux Cab, #1400.....\$459,000
- '23 Case IH 580Q AFS Connect, 1300 hrs, PTO, 36" Tracks, 6 Rmt, HO pump, Lux cab#145.....\$495,000
- '22 Case IH 580Q AFS Connect, 2560 hrs, PTO, 36" Tracks, 6 Rmt, HO Pump, Lux cab#1455.....\$399,000
- '20 CASE IH 500Q, 5140 hrs, PTO, 36" Tracks, 6 Rmt, HO Pump, Lux Cab#1430.....\$250,000
- '18 Case IH 580Q, 3730 hrs, PTO, 36" Tracks, 6 Rmt, HO Pump, Lux Cab, Trailer Brake#1457.....\$295,000
- '14 CHALLENGER-M1775E, 6025 hrs, PTO, 3pt, 14" Tracks, 6 Rmts, #1313.....\$110,000
- '08 CASE IH STEIGER 435Q, 8120 hrs, Lux Cab, 30" Tracks, 4 Remotes, #1387.....\$150,000
- '01 Case IH 440Q, 11,800 hrs, 30" Tracks, 4 Remotes # ConsS7.....\$65,000

USED WHEEL TRACTORS

- '23 CASE IH MAXXUM 135 ACT 4, 250 hrs, MFD, 3pt, PTO, #1401.....\$150,000
- '22 CASE IH MAGNUM 280 AFS CONCT CVT, 1300 hrs, MFD, Susp Axle, PTO, #1392.....\$280,000
- '22 CASE IH MAGNUM 280 AFS CONCT CVT, 1200 hrs, MFD, Susp Axle, PTO, #1383.....\$280,000
- '21 CASE IH MAXXUM 135 ACT 8, 800 hrs, MFD, 3pt, PTO, #1342.....\$135,000
- '78 STEIGER PANTHER 3, ST325, 4-Remotes, Duals, Cat Engine, ConsD62.....\$10,000

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- '24 APACHE H51100 SPRAYER, 120' Booms, 4WD Hydro, Capstan system, #561.....\$CALL
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- '24 CASE IH 9250 HILLCO, 550 HRS, HARVEST COMND, 4WD, CHOPPER, DUALS, LUCAB, #1091.....\$635,000
- '23 CASE IH 8250, 725 hrs, Harvest Command, 4wd, Chopper, Duals, Lux Cab, #1105.....\$440,000
- '21 CASE IH 9250 HILLCO, 818 hrs, Harvest Command, 4wd, Chopper, Duals Lux Cab#1014.....\$500,000
- 2014 Case IH 8230 1630 hrs, 4WD, Chopper, Duals, Nice #1106.....\$190,000
- '10 CASE IH 7088 HILLSIDE, 2400 hrs, chopper, 4WD, Duals #1069.....\$95,000
- '10 CASE IH 8120, 2850 hrs, Chopper, Duals, 2WD #1103.....\$89,000
- '07 JD 9860 STS SIDEHILL, 3248 hrs, duals, chopper, 630 Header #1071.....\$70,000
- '04 JD 9660 STS, 2540 hrs, Duals, Chopper, 630 Auger, #1066.....\$50,000

USED HAY EQUIPMENT

- '20 CASE IH RB465 ROUND BALER, 6000 bales, Net Wrap, Great Shape Cosd87.....\$45,000.00

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- '14 HORSCH ANDERSON JOKER RT370, 37', New Blades, #ConsD71#460.....\$60,000

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USDA announces details for specialty crop aid

By Kyle Odegard
Capital Press

The USDA has announced the enrollment period and payment rates for the Assistance for Specialty Crop Farmers program, which will issue \$1.625 billion in payments.

The program is in response to elevated input costs and market disruptions.

Much of the aid is likely destined for California and the Pacific Northwest, which are production powerhouses for fruits, vegetables and tree nuts.

In a news release, U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins said President Donald Trump's administration is committed to ensuring the economic strength of specialty crop operations.

It will continue to open new foreign markets and strengthen domestic demand for American produce, she added.

"Building on the success of the Farmer Bridge Assistance program, we are using an expedited program application and payment process through the One Farmer, One File system to ensure specialty crop producers also receive the necessary financial assistance as quick as possible, while we work to build a more robust market with lower input costs and more opportunities," Rollins said.

The Bridge program is providing \$11 billion in one-time payments to row crop growers for the 2025 season.

However, critics have said it was insufficient, created agricultural winners and losers and administration actions exacerbated certain farm problems.

Trump policies and posturing, including during his

first term in office, have made international trade more difficult for some specialty crop sectors.

Fuel and fertilizer costs for farmers also were already rising but jumped since the Iran War began in late February.

Growers who have a Login.gov account who filed their 2025 crop acreage report can access and submit their pre-filled application starting June 1.

Producers who do not have an account or prefer to enroll in person at their local Farm Service Agency can request their prefilled application beginning June 8.

Enrollment for the Assistance for Specialty Crop Farmers program closes Aug. 7.

Payments will be issued as applications are submitted and approved, beginning as early as the first week of signup.

FSA used national average revenue per crop as a metric for developing Assistance for Specialty Crop Farmers payment categories and rates.

The total payment limit is \$250,000. A person or legal entity with adjusted gross income greater than \$900,000 is not eligible.

Tier 1 crops, including blueberries, sweet cherries, fresh grapes and strawberries, are eligible for \$650 per acre.

Those crops have an annual revenue of more than \$10,000 per acre.

Tier 2 crop payments are \$225 per acre for crops that provide annual revenue of \$2,300 to \$10,000.

Notable Tier 2 crops include apples, almonds, cranberries, processed grapes, pears, pistachios, potatoes, walnuts and watermelon.

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Training appears to reduce bee poisonings

By Mateusz Perkowski
Capital Press

Educational outreach to pesticide applicators in Oregon appears to be effective in decreasing honey bee poisonings from chemical sprays, according to a recent report.

Over the past eight years, Oregon State University has trained more than 12,000 licensed applicators about how to prevent harm from spraying pesticides, according to the university's "Bees of Oregon" report for 2025.

Post-training evaluations have confirmed that more than 95% of the applicators are able to understand and interpret provisions related to protecting bees on pesticide

labels, the report said.

Meanwhile, data from the Oregon Department of Agriculture "indicates a general downward trend in bee-related pesticide complaints and investigations over the past decade," with validated bee deaths "remaining rare."

The downward trend suggests that the "emphasis on applicator training and industry coordination is contributing to low toxic pesticide exposure to bees," according to the report.

Fewer complaints

According to the ODA data, the agency received 57 complaints related to "bee-related pesticide incidents" between 2014 and 2019, with two con-



A new report from Oregon State University says that educational outreach to pesticide applicators has reduced honey bee poisonings from chemical sprays. Oregon Department of Agriculture/Contributed

firmed bee kills related to those investigations. To compare, there were 37 such complaints between 2020 and 2025, with one confirmed bee kill in that time.

The trainings were initiated

as part of the Oregon Honey Bee Project, which sprang from a legislative task force in 2014 and required OSU and natural resource agencies to adopt a strategic plan for protecting pollinators.

Apart from educating licensed applicators, the program has also distributed native plant seeds, conducted surveillance for "exotic threats" to honey bees, and compiled a statewide inventory of pollinator species, among other measures.

According to the report, Oregon currently has about 25 large-scale commercial beekeepers, another 30 "sideliners" who operate on a smaller scale, and up to 2,000 hobbyist backyard beekeepers, with about 84,000 honey-producing hives in total.

An annual survey conducted by OSU has found that hive losses among hobbyists have declined over the past 15 years, while they've increased for commercial beekeepers.

However, commercial beekeepers have reported average of losses of 22%, which is less severe than the 36% average losses reported by their backyard counterparts, the report said. The trend of losses found in Oregon "mirror" those observed in a national survey.

Among the "stressors" that cause hive losses are "parasites and diseases, poor nutrition and exposure to pesticides," with the varroa mite considered the "most damaging and persistent threat," according to OSU studies.

The university's honey bee lab is focused on improving "apicultural resilience" by focusing on "colony health, nutritional requirements and pollination efficacy," the report said. "By integrating these research domains, the lab has worked to mitigate biological stressors, improve annual survival rates, and ensure the long-term productivity of both pollination services and honey production within the state."

Another program of the Oregon Bee Project, an atlas of bee species, has relied on trained volunteers to develop the "largest contemporary state bee inventory in North American, according to the report. More than 560 bee species have been identified as part of the project, while DNA data indicates there may be another 200 species that still await taxonomic identification.

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Washington rep calls state's iconic apple 'gross'

B Don Jenkins
Capital Press

A Washington congresswoman called Red Delicious apples “inferior” and “gross,” likening the taste to “old boot leather” and accusing the iconic variety of fostering a distaste for fruit among school children.

Rep. Marie Gluesenkamp Perez, a Democrat who represents Southwest Washington, posted a video clip of her remarks, made at a House committee meeting, on X and Instagram on May 18. The clip has received 1.8 million views on X.

“I think we all remember being presented with a really gross Red Delicious apple in school cafeterias. Maybe you like them. If you do, you’re wrong,” she said. “Red Delicious, as we know in Washington state, (is) an inferior apple.”

Red Delicious reigned for decades as Washington’s marquee apple. As recently as 2018, Red Delicious apples made up 25% of the state’s crop, according to the Northwest Horticultural Council. The percentage has slipped to 15%, placing it second behind Gala.

Yakima Valley apple farmer Jim Willard, who grows only Red Delicious apples, said the variety still sells well, especially in Southeast Asia and India.

“The congresswoman is

entitled to her opinion,” he said. “Overall, Red Delicious has been paying its way. I tell my banker I lose less money on Red Delicious.”

Committee comments

At an Appropriations Subcommittee meeting, Gluesenkamp Perez spoke in favor of a budget amendment encouraging USDA to update the apple varieties it buys by the truckload for the national school lunch program.

See Apples, Page C13



U.S. Rep. Marie Gluesenkamp Perez, D-Wash., tastes fruit at a Lewis County farm in 2024. At a House committee meeting, the Southwest Washington congresswoman called Red Delicious apples “gross.” (Don Jenkins/Capital Press)

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By Kyle Odegard
Capital Press

Quality problems affected fresh apple holdings in late fall

More fresh market Cosmic Crisp apples — about 7.15 million bushels — are in storage than any other variety.

But the stockpile is actually a good thing, said Jon DeVaney, president of the Washington State Tree Fruit Association.

Cosmic Crisp, developed by Washington State University and grown exclusively in Washington through 2032, has a delayed release to promote eating quality, he said.

“It is a year-round variety and we need enough in storage to last until a new crop is available in December,” DeVaney added.

Chris Gerlach, USAApple vice president of insights and analytics, said the scenario was “interesting” during an online presentation May 21.

“I don’t think we’ve hit the peak production year, which is probably coming in the next year or two,” he added.

As the Cosmic Crisp crop increases, Washington’s apple industry must ensure it moves fruit at prices that don’t result in a huge surplus at the end of the season, Gerlach added.

Cosmic Crisp is a relatively new variety that first

reached consumers in 2019 and Washington now has 22 million trees of that apple.

May USAApple Tracker

The May edition of the USAApple Tracker showed nearly 70 million bushels in storage across the country, down 4% from the previous year, but 9% above the 5-year average.

Washington accounted for 85% of America’s apple holdings.

Fresh apple holdings were 47 million bushels, 10% less than May 2025, but up 5% from the 5-year average.

Processed apples totaled 22 million bushels, up 11% from the previous year and 19% over the 5-year-average.

Packout ratios changed for a number of varieties in late fall due to quality problems that affected fresh holdings. That resulted in more apples being pushed toward processing.

Honeycrisp had the most overall apples in storage, with 9.5 million bushels, followed by Granny Smith at 9.4 million bushels and Cosmic Crisp with 8.9 million bushels.

However, 46% of Honeycrisp apples in storage and 26% of Granny Smith holdings were for processing, compared to just 20% for Cosmic Crisp.



Nearly 9 million bushels of Cosmic Crisp apples were in storage in May and 80% of those were destined for the fresh market. Honeycrisp had the most apples in holdings at 9.5 million bushels, but 46% of that was for processing. (Proprietary Variety Management/ Contributed)



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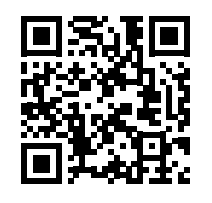
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Apples:

continued from C11

The USDA lists Red Delicious, Gala, Fuji, Granny Smith, Honeycrisp and Empire as available varieties. The amendment, which passed, encourages USDA to add Cosmic Crisp and SugarBee, but not delete any varieties.

“People argue that the kids just aren’t eating fruit because they don’t like it. It’s like, well, yeah, if you serve them an old boot leather to eat, they wouldn’t eat that either,” she said.

“It’s important that we offer quality fruit that can compete with Cheetos or whatever kids are eating these days,” she said.

Washington State Tree Fruit Association President Jon DeVaney said in an email that Red Delicious apples continue to be a popular variety, particularly in international markets. More than half of the Red Deli-

cious crop is sold overseas, he said.

“Everyone has their personal favorite apple, and that diversity is part of what makes the industry so successful,” DeVaney said.

“Rather than criticizing one variety over another, we believe it’s important to stay positive and continue supporting the growers and businesses who work hard to provide high-quality fruit to consumers around the world,” he said.

Efforts to contact Gluesenkamp Perez through her press office were unsuccessful. She introduced the video clip on X by posting that Red Delicious apples were in schools because they were approved by the USDA.

“Given that Red Delicious are the worst apples, have you ever wondered why they’re in every school cafeteria? It’s because there’s a list of ‘approved’ apple varieties allowed in schools, and it hasn’t

changed since Kmart sold firearms,” Gluesenkamp Perez wrote.

The USDA does not have an “approved” list of foods for the national school

lunch program, according to the USDA Food and Nutrition Service.

“Apples are part of a nutritious school meal, and USDA does not limit

or restrict the variety of domestic apples a school can purchase either through USDA Foods or commercially,” the agency said in an email.



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University of Idaho graduate students visit the Wada Farms fresh potato packing facility in Pingree during a tour of the state's potato supply chain. The tour stopped in communities from southwest to east regions. (University of Idaho/Contributed)

UI grad students tour key sites in state's potato industry

By **BRAD CARLSON**
Capital Press

Adison Reyes and Alexandra Sims saw key parts of the state's potato industry firsthand May 18-21 along with eight other University of Idaho graduate students.

"It's an amazing opportunity for learning the whole process, from the marketing part through food processing and the whole production process," Reyes, a doctoral student from Ecuador studying with plant virology professor Alexander Karazev, said in a news release. "It's just amazing and highly technical."

"This was an opportunity to see a side of the industry that I hadn't seen yet — a bit of the agricultural equipment, a bit of the farming and planting," said Sims, a master's student from Connecticut studying plant pathology with Kasia Duellman, extension plant pathology specialist based in Idaho Falls.

Sims was especially interested in seeing advanced potato storage facilities.

"I know a lot about the

things that can go wrong in storage facilities, but I got to learn a lot about how to make everything go right," she said.

Potato farmers Doug Gross of Wilder and Jeff Harper of Mountain Home in 2014 established the Idaho Potato Graduate Industry Program Endowment to recognize the important role the industry plays in Idaho agriculture and how UI's College of Agricultural and Life Sciences helps the industry through teaching, research and extension.

The endowment funds the tour, held every two years. The tour exposes graduate students to industry components from biotechnology, seed certification and production to growing and storing potatoes, fresh-pack systems, processing, equipment, irrigation, food science, agribusiness and marketing.

"The whole idea was to expose young people to the industry because we must have a replenishment of workers," said Gross, who

See Tour, Page C15



2017 KENWORTH T-880 FARM TRUCK, ISX CUMMINS 550 HP, JAKE, 18 SPD MANUAL, 3:70 REAR RATIO WITH DOUBLE LOCKERS, 11R22.5 TIRES 60%, DISC BRAKES, 1 110 GALLON FUEL TANK, FACTORY LIFT AXLE WITH 255 75R 22.5 RUBBER AT 80%, LFT HAS 13' SPREAD, 22 FOOT KNAPEID BED AND RACKS WITH BLUE ROLL TARP, 5 REAR GATES, KNAP HOIST, REAR HITCH, NEW PTO AND CONTROLS, BOX JUST PAINTED



1985 FRUEHAUF STAINLESS STEEL TANKER, 6700 GALLONS, STRAIGHT ROUND / REAR DISCHARGE, 3" QRB STYLE SS VALVE, AIR RIDE SUSPENSION, 295/75R22.5 RUBBER, ALL ALUMINUM WHEELS, HOSE TUBES EACH SIDE, 80% RUBBER, 70% BRAKES.....



1976 GMC 6500 FUEL TRUCK, 366 GAS MOTOR, 5 SPEED WITH 2 SPEED REAR ENDS, MILEAGE IS 82,487, STEEL WHEELS WITH 10.0020 RUBBER, 1976 BEALL STEEL 4 COMPARTMENT 1550 GALL ON FUEL TANK, ONE HOSE REEL AND METER, GREAT FARM AND RANCH FUELER, TRUCK RUNS GREAT



1988 BARBEL STAINLESS STEEL TANK TRAILER, 7000 GALLONS, 1 COMPARTMENT, DOUBLE CONICAL / CENTER DISCHARGE, SPRING RIDE SUSPENSION, 295/75R22.5 TIRES, STEEL WHEELS, 3" STAINLESS QRB STYLE VALVE AT THE CENTER, HOSE TRAY RIGHT SIDE, 60% BRAKES, 60% TIRES, BAR-BEL 42' 7000 GAL SS TANKER



1-2025 TRAVALONG (STEEL A-TRAIN HOPPER SETS) 40' 2 HOPPER LEAD, FULL REAR HITCH PACKAGE, GATOR HYDE LINER PROTECTANT SPRAYED ON LANDING GEAR AND HOPPERS, 11R24.5 TIRES AND ALL ALUMINUM WHEELS, SPRING SUSPENSION, SHUR-CO ROLL TARP, CHROME CORNERS, 2 VIEW WINDOWS, SILVER / GRAY PAINT, COMES WITH PUP 1-2025 TRAV-A-LONG 20 PUP TRAILER, BACK HALF OF NW A-TRAIN SET, LARGE RING TURN TABLE, ALCOA WHEELS, 11R24.5 VIRGIN RUBBER, HIGH AND LOW HOPPER VIEW WINDOW, SHUR-LOK BLACK TARP, FRONT AND REAR LADDER AND VIEW PLATFORM, LED LIGHTS, HOPPER IS 24 INCHES OFF GROUND, 4 CHROME CORNER CAPS 1 SET COMING MAY 2025 SET WEIGHS 21,280 LBS, ARRIVING MAY 2025.....



2010 INTERNATIONAL PAYSTAR DOUBLE PUMPER, CUMMINS ISX 500 HP, 1850 TORQUE, 13 SPD TRANSMISSION, 11R22.5 RUBBER ON ALL ALUMINUM WHEELS, RUBBER IS 70%, 1976 PEERLESS ALUMINUM TRUCK TANK, 4500 GALLONS, 4 COMPARTMENTS, 1500 / 1000 / 1000 / 1000, DOUBLE PUMPER, VAPOR, SCULLY, BOTTOM LOAD.

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Tour:

continued from C14

graduated from UI in agricultural systems management in 1975. “Most college kids or graduate students don’t get the opportunity to get out into the businesses and see what’s really going on, what our concerns are as farmers and what needs to be worked on.”

UI potato specialist Nora Olsen and UI potato post-harvest physiologist Gustavo Teixeira hosted the tour.

“The tour is an in-person, face-to-face experience,” Teixeira said. “They can talk to growers, they can talk to processors and they can learn a lot during the process. It’s also a good venue for the students to get in contact with the industry so they may be hired in the future.”

TOUR STOPS

- Idaho Potato Commission headquarters, Eagle (industry updates)
- Gross Farms (overview)
- UI Parma Research and Extension Center (aphids

- focus)
- Simplot Plant Sciences, Boise (biotechnology for disease resistance, quality)
- Harper’s Flying H Farms, Mountain Home (field dig)
- Lamb Weston, Twin Falls, (fried products production)
- Agri-Stor, Blackfoot (storage management)
- UI Aberdeen Research and Extension Center (variety development for processing)
- Wada Farms, Pingree (fresh packing and shipping, applying UI research on physiology of fresh potatoes in transit)
- Spudnik Equipment, Blackfoot (manufacture of equipment for production, storage, harvest)
- Atchley’s Flying A Ranch, Ashton (where tissue cultures produced at UI’s Seed Potato Germplasm Lab in Moscow are raised in a sterile greenhouse environment)
- Idaho Crop Improvement Association, Idaho Falls (state’s seed certification authority)

182
120



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10000 GAL ACE POLY TANK, 3" & 2" Valves.....\$4,500



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FRONTIER GC1107 GRAIN CART, 700 Bu, PTO, Roll Tarp...\$21,950



'17 JD 310L EP BACKHOE LOADER, 1702 Hrs, 4WD, Cab, Air/Heat\$45,500



SUMMERS ULTIMATE NT SUSPENDED BOOM SPRAYER, 90', 1500 Gal Tank, 7 Section Control, Boom Height, Mix Tank\$11,000



(2) 12,000 GAL NH3 TANKS, Blackmer Pump ...\$14,500

TRACTORS



'14 JD 9510R, 3278 Hrs, 1 Owner, AutoSteer, Goodyear 800 LSW Duals, Weight Package.....\$208,750



'95 JD 8870, 3029 Original Hrs, Powershift, PTO, AutoSteer, Diff Locks\$55,000



'12 CIH 500 QUADTRAC, 5060 Hrs, 36" Tracks, Axles Checked & Repaired.....\$142,000



'95 MACDON 9000 WINDROWER, 3593 Hrs, '00 MacDon 15' Grass Seed Special Head.....\$13,500



NH 1441 DISCBINE, New Cutting System\$11,950



'21 MF RK842 SD-TRC PRO ROTARY RAKE, Low Acres\$33,000



'08 MF 2170, 81272 Bales, Auto Lube, Poly In Bale Chamber \$29,500



H & S TURNER FLUFFER\$3,500

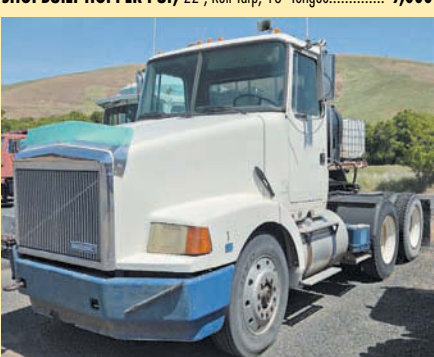
TRUCKS & TRAILERS



'82 FRUEHAUF ALUMINUM TANKER, 9200 Gal, 4 Compartments ...\$4,950



SHOPBUILT HOPPER PUP, 22', Roll Tarp, 18' Tongue.....\$9,000



'89 WHITE GMC DAYCAB, 3406B, 9 Spd, Wet Kit.....\$4,950



'73 FORD LN9000, Detroit, 9 Spd, 20' Bed/Hoist, Roll Tarp...\$19,950

COMBINES



'14 CIH 8230, 4479 Sep Hrs, Hillico Leveler, 4WD, AutoSteer, Chopper, Diff Locks, '15 MacDon FD75 Draper Head, 40', Top Auger, Transport Kit....\$89,950



'04 JD 9760STS, 3625 Sep Hrs, Full Leveler, 4WD, Chopper, '07 JD 630R, Cart, '06 JD 630F, Cart\$49,950



'99 JD 9610, 5272 Sep Hrs, Full Leveler, 200 Hrs On New Hydro, Chaff Spreader, '99 JD 930R, Cart\$19,950

TILLAGE



HILCO 602 HARROW CART, 60', 10 Bar Hill Harrow.....\$10,000



WILRICH 3400 FIELD CULTIVATOR, 45', Dyko Points, 5 Bar McFarlane Flex Harrow.....\$8,550



'18 GREAT PLAINS 3500 TURBO MAX, 3K Acres on New Blades & Spiders.....\$79,950



'18 GREAT PLAINS 7336DH DISK, 36', Gauge Wheels, 800 Total Acres.....\$57,500

DRILLS



'15 CIH FLEX HOE 700, 60' 12" Spacing w/4" Dutch Precision Points, 3430 Cart, 2450 Liquid Cone Tank, Full Run Blockage Monitors...\$165,000



FLEXICOIL 8100, 30', 2340 Cart, Extra Parts.....\$18,000



'14 JD 1890, 40', 7.5" Spacing, 1 Owner, 32K Acres, Blockage Monitors, '13 JD 1910 Cart.....\$129,500

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