

OVER THE BACK FENCE

AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES EXTENSION NEWSLETTER

JUNE–AUGUST 2018



Welcome to Summer in Harrison County!

We're excited to see what this summer has to offer! Don't forget to mark your calendars for this year's County Fair! June 17th is the kick off date with our Cattlemen's Annual Fish Fry and the Fair Parade followed by the crowning of this year's Fair Queen and court.

Of course, there will be 4-H exhibits on display and shows starting Saturday, June 16th.

Be sure to support our youth by checking out their projects this year and attending the auction on Thursday,

June 21st. Need auction buyer passes? Stop by the office and let us know you're interested!

We're revamping our newsletter! Let us know what you think! We will be offering more details on our website. Be sure to bookmark the Harrison County Website as a favorite on your computer at home! www.extension.purdue.edu/harrison

Another important announcement, I will be starting my maternity leave somewhere at the end of July or beginning of

August. During this time, I won't be available to assist with any questions in the office. My colleagues in Floyd, Washington and Crawford Counties are more than happy to help you during my leave. Our office staff will still be available to send in soil and forage samples, but please take live plant and insect samples to the Floyd County office. I will return in October!

Miranda C. Edge

Midwest Cover Crops Council NEW MOBILE APP

<http://mccc.msu.edu>

The Midwest cover crops field scout mobile app is now available for smart phones and tablets. This latest app gives the user the ability to access cover crop information from their mobile device in the field, home, office, or on the go.

The specialized app is partnered with the printed pocket guide "Midwest Cover Crops Guide, 2nd Edition." In addition, this cover crop guide has a digital version

providing the farmer more photos and details. Printed guides are still available through the education store or at the Extension office.

The unique feature of the Cover Crop Scout App—the ability to be used without internet connection. There is however a \$2.99 fee for a one year subscription. iPhone and Android compatible.

Search "cover crop" in either store, or use the QR Codes here:

App Store QR Code



Google Store QR Code



Extension

Are you happy getting this newsletter in your mailbox? Would you prefer to receive an email with a link to download the newsletter?

If you'd prefer to be notified by email when the AG newsletter is ready, please tell our office manger, Mary Eve. Email her at feve@purdue.edu with your full name, street address, and the best email address for you.

Help us save trees!



CHECK US OUT ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

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New Youth Garden at the Boys and Girls Club Grand Opening

We had lots of great help putting together nine new raised garden beds at the Boys and Girls Club, planting landscaping around the brand new building, and even planting some vegetables!



attend our Grand Opening, join us after the fair. Check Facebook and the Extension Office for more details. Meet the team and become involved this summer!



Youth will start using these education beds this year! We will also be planting enough to donate fresh produce to the Food Bank at Community Services. If you would like to



HARRISON COUNTY
 MASTER
 GARDENERS MEET
 EVERY THIRD
 THURSDAY OF THE
 MONTH AT 6:30 PM
 ANYONE INTERESTED
 IN GARDENING IS
 INVITED!

Master Gardener Happenings

Fair Booth

Come visit us at the County Fair! We'll be in the Talmadge Windell Building all week! Cool off and sign up to win a prize every evening!

Ask us questions

Sign up to be notified of the next training dates

Learn about all the projects sponsored by the Harrison County Master Gardeners, Inc.



our Master Gardeners! Check out their displays in downtown Corydon, at the Boys and Girls Club, the Habitat for Humanity Retail Store, Corydon Elementary School, the Purdue Extension Office and the Harrison County Fairgrounds!

THANK YOU!!!

Thanks for all the hard work of



High Tunnel Tour—Southwest Purdue Ag Center

Wednesday, June 13th

7:00 pm - 9:00 pm (EST)

Registration and self-guided tour begins at 6:30 pm.

Visit the Southwest Purdue Ag Center, 4369 N Purdue Rd. Vincennes, IN 47591 for their High Tunnel Tour.

Highlights of the tour: Seedless Cucumber Production. Check out research being conducted to



evaluate 16 different varieties, grafting techniques and its potential to extend early season cucumber production, observe different trellises and pruning systems, discuss management options for striped cucumber beetles. Additional topics will cover tomato, pepper, and summer squash production in high tunnels. Discussions will include selecting varieties to

perform, pruning and trellising and maximizing benefits of grafting. Finally, a demonstration of growing strawberries with plasticulture and low tunnel systems will be available.

Registration is free. Please call 812-886-0198 prior to the 13th. For more information, please contact Wenjing Guan at guan40@purdue.edu



Harrison County Cattlemen's Association Update

Cattlemen's Annual Fish Fry

June 17th at 5:00 pm
at the Talmadge Windell
Building
Join us before the parade
for fellowship and a
good meal!

Bring a covered dish to
share.

The doors on the west
side will be unlocked

Working Chute Contest

Saturday, June 16th
After the 4-H Goat Show

Current 3-12 grade
members of 4-H or FFA
are eligible to participate
with an adult! Adults must
be over 18 and not
currently a 4-H or FFA
student member. Maximum
of 10 teams, registration is
\$30 per team. Registration
is open NOW. Forms can
be found at the extension
office.

Jr. Cattle Association

A kickoff meeting will take
place on June 6th at
6:00 pm. Natalie Harris
will start with a grooming
clinic. We'll discuss
association by laws and
goals after the clinic.
Youth of all ages are
welcome to attend. We are
targeting 3rd graders
through seniors, younger
aged youth are still
welcome to attend.



CATTELMEN'S
BOARD MEETS THE
FIRST WEDNESDAY
OF EVERY EVEN
MONTH AT 7:30 PM.
USUALLY AT THE
EXTENSION OFFICE.
JUNE 6TH WILL BE AT
THE FAIRGROUNDS.
CLEAN UP OF
TRAILERS STARTS AT
6:30PM

Harrison County Cattlemen's Association Update

Special Thanks!

Special thank you to
Annette Lawler, Harrison
County's Health and
Human Sciences Extension
Educator, for providing a
great safe food handling
class. We all passed!

Volunteers Needed!

County Fair Booth
volunteers are still needed.
Please contact Missi
McPhillips or Thomas
Owen for more info. Also
be thinking about your
availability to help at
Lanesville Heritage and
AG Days in September.

Cattlemen's Field Day

August 25th
9:30 am registration
Harrison County
Fairgrounds
Topics: Meat Quality
and Forage Quality
Register by August 1st at
Ext. Office 738-4236

BOARD MEMBERS

Thomas Owen, *President*
(2019)
Natalie Harris, *Vice President*
(2018)
Missi McPhillips, *Secretary/
Treasurer* (2018)

Richard Haeseley (2018)
Jake Gleitz (2019)
Anna Jones (2019)
George Lamon (2019)
Michael Loudon (2019)
John Bliss (2020)
Nancy Day (2020)
Vincent Johnson (2020)
Charlie Sieberns (2020)

Welcome!!!

The members of the
Cattlemen's Association are
the lifeblood of our
organization. We would like
to take this time to welcome
all of our new members! We
encourage our new members
to get involved with activities,
workshops, and events.
Cattlemen look forward to
seeing all of the new members
throughout the year!

Thanks for the Support!!

Your efforts have already
been rewarded this year!
Money raised through the
Cattlemen's Association has
already gone to support the
Paoli FFA chapter and their
goal of a new pig barn at their
school. You've also
sponsored the carcass
evaluation and auction fees
for our young cattlemen
exhibiting their projects
at the Fair!

Purdue Ag Economics Report

Craig L Dobbins, Professor of Agriculture Economics
Kim Cook, Research Associate

Estimates for the current rental value of pasture land and hay ground in Indiana are often difficult to locate. For the past several years, questions about these items have been included in the Purdue Farmland Value Survey. The values from the June 2017 survey are reported here. Because the number of responses for some items is small, the number of responses is reported.

THE FULL AG ECONOMIC REPORT CAN BE FOUND AT: [HTTPS://AG.PURDUE.EDU/AGECON](https://ag.purdue.edu/agecon)

Table 1. Pastureland: June 2017

Region	Number of responses	Annual Rent (\$ per acre)	Carry Capacity (acres per cow)
Southeast	9	\$55	1.7
State	58	\$90	1.8

Table 2. Rental of Established Alfalfa and Grass hay Ground

Region	Alfalfa/Alfalfa-Grass Hay		Grass Hay	
	Responses	Rent (\$/A)	Responses	Rent (\$/A)
Southwest & Southeast	11	\$92	10	\$67
State	48	\$152	45	\$152

Background on Chinese Tariffs on Soybeans and Pork

By Dr. Chris Hurt
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 Wally Tyner
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 765-494-0199

Importance of China in the Global Soybean Market:

- China is the largest user of soybeans in the world. The U.S. is the second largest user and has about one-half the domestic use of China.
- China only raised 13% of the soybeans they will consume in the current marketing year. This means they will import 87% of the total beans they consume.
- China currently buys about 65% of all the soybeans that move in global trade
- The U.S. will supply 29% of all the soybeans that China will use this marketing year. In calendar year 2017, the U.S. sold China

1.2 Billion bushels of soybeans valued at \$12.4 Billion. This was around 30% of U.S. production.

How a Chinese Tariff Would Work:

- If China puts an additional 25% tariff on U.S. origin soybeans this is essentially a tax to allow U.S. origin beans to enter China.
- An additional 25% Chinese tariff would largely make U.S. origin soybeans uncompetitively priced compared to other countries such as Brazil and Argentina.
- The Chinese tariff on U.S. origin beans means that soybean processors in China would buy beans first from our lower-costs competitors.
- China would still need to buy some U.S. soybeans because we are such a large

supplier. But, the U.S. would become the supplier of last resort, often called the “residual supplier.” China would first buy from our competitors and purchase the minimum they can from the U.S.

- China would pay a higher price for both competitor beans and U.S. beans.

Impacts of 25% Soybean Tariff:

- Purdue Ag Economists Tyner and Taheripour have completed a study of the impacts of a 25% Chinese tariff on soybeans. Given the many assumptions in their models, they find that after approximately 5 years of adjustment the tariff would result in:
 - U.S. soybean exports to China dropping 65%
 - U.S. global soybean exports dropping 37%
 - U.S. soybean production



Chinese Tariffs, cont'd.

dropping by 15% (mostly from lower soybeans acres)

- Soybean prices dropping about 5%
- U.S. and Chinese economic wellbeing falling \$3 billion per year.

Indiana Soybeans and Impacts:

- Indiana farmers planted almost 6 million acres of beans in 2017. Soybeans were the largest acreage crop with corn second at 5.35 million acres.
- Indiana produced 321 million bushel of soybeans with an estimated farm value of \$3.1 billion in 2017.
- Indiana ranked as the 5th largest soybean state by acres planted
- The Chinese soybean tariff is estimated to drop revenues for Indiana soybeans by around \$150 million annually assuming a 5% price reduction.
- The \$150 million drop in revenue represents about a 10% decline in the \$1.5 billion of annual Indiana farm income from the most recent official data for 2016.
- Overtime, lower soybean prices would lead to reduced soybean acres and more acres of corn, wheat and other crops. Prices and revenues for those crops would drop somewhat as well.

China and U.S. Pork:

- China proposed a 25% tariff on U.S. pork exports on April 1, 2018.
- China is the world's largest producer and consumer of pork. Their

consumption is nearly 3 times the European Union (second largest) and almost 6 times the U.S. (third largest).

- China raises 97% of their own pork. Imports from the U.S. represent only 1% of their consumption.
- Unlike soybeans, China can easily replace the shortfall of U.S. pork from our pork competitors like the EU and Canada.
- Chinese tariffs on U.S. pork exports will have minor impacts on China.

Pork Tariff Impacts in the U.S. and Indiana:

- U.S. pork exports to China represented 2% of U.S. production in 2017.
- Chinese tariffs will make U.S. pork largely uncompetitive in China and U.S. exports to China would drop to near zero.
- The loss of a market that represents 2% of our production will lower hog and pork prices in the U.S.
- There will be at least two positive compensations from these lower prices:
- U.S. consumers will buy somewhat more pork at the lower prices
- The EU and Canada will ship more pork to China and less to some other destinations. The U.S. will pick-up some of this business.
- Purdue Ag Economist C. Hurt has made some rough estimates of these impacts:
- U.S. Hog prices drop about \$3 per head

- Nationally, this reduces revenues about \$350 million annually
- Indiana produces near 9 million head of hogs a year. So this is a revenue reduction of around \$25 million.
- The Indiana industry had farm receipts near \$1.3 billion in 2017. So, the tariff impact would lower revenue about 2%.
- The tariff would result in a small downsizing of the U.S. industry and provide an incentive to slightly expand our pork competitors such as the EU and Canada.

Can Current Trade Disputes Be Resolved?

- Neither the U.S. nor Chinese announced tariffs have been implemented yet.
- It is anticipated that trade teams from the U.S. and China will be meeting to better understand the concerns from each side.
- At this point, there is the potential opportunity to find resolutions to these trade disputes.

INDIANA

PRODUCED 321

MILLION BUSHEL

OF SOYBEANS WITH

AN ESTIMATED

FARM VALUE OF

\$3.1 BILLION IN

2017

Indiana Beef Evaluation Program

The purpose of the Indiana Beef Evaluation Program (IBEP) is (1) to promote performance testing and carcass evaluation of beef cattle and serve as an educational tool to acquaint producers with their value; (2) to complement on-farm performance testing; (3) to provide a common environment for evaluating the performance of young bulls; (4) to assist breeders in identifying sires whose progeny excel in growth rate,

feed conversion and carcass value; and (5) to aid beef producers in obtaining superior, performance tested bulls which have been evaluated for growth, breeding and structural soundness, and carcass merit. All beef producers are welcome to enter bulls in the IBEP performance tests. Entrants are required to have their herds enrolled, and be currently participating in their breed's performance testing program. In order for

bulls to be eligible for IBEP auctions, they must be registered, have EPD's for birth weight, weaning weight, and maternal milk, and entrants must be participating in an official herd performance testing program, with weaning data reported to and processed by their breed association. If you are interested in participating, please contact Miranda for more information, and visit the test station during a working day to see how the bulls test.

IBEP SUMMER TEST DATES:

JUNE 19
AUGUST 21
SEPTEMBER 24
SEPTEMBER 27
(BRANDING
DAY)

SUMMER BULL SALE:

OCTOBER 20

Indiana Beef Evaluation and Economics Feeding Program

This is a steer and heifer feed-out program through Purdue University Extension. It provides Indiana producers with a way to place cattle on feed and gather performance, carcass, and economic information to make genetic and management improvements in their herd.

Cooperators receive individual and group feedlot performance, feedlot costs, individual and group carcass information, including quality and yield grad, ribeye area, fat thickness, carcass weight, etc.

IBEEF also allows producers to compare sires, as well as evaluate alternative marketing strategies and their impact upon profitability. The program also helps to

improve the reputation of producer's cattle by establishing a database of feedlot performance and carcass merit on their calves.

Breeding and management programs as well as other factors that influence feedlot performance and carcass productivity and value must be critically evaluated. Participating in the IBEEF program will provide you the information for critical decision making in your operation.

Since the beginning of IBEEF in the fall of 1997, over 150 cooperators have entered over 9,100 steers and heifers into the program. Cooperators have received feedlot performance, health, carcass quality, and yield

grade as well as economic information on each individual animal entered.

This information has helped cooperators identify the strong as well as weak points in their beef herd breeding and management programs. Cooperators have also gained experience and knowledge in value-based grid marketing.

If you would like more information or want to participate, contact Miranda, medge@purdue.edu



Purdue Agriculture Center Field Days

The Purdue Agricultural Centers (PACS) will be offering public field days, workshops, and other events in 2018. These events provide educational opportunities for commodity producers, crop/livestock advisers, and others seeking knowledge in crop production, farm management, land use, and other issues.

- June 6-7, *Davis PAC “Tile Drainage”*
- August 9, *Feldun PAC “Forage Management”*
- August 22, *Pinney PAC*
- August 23, *Northeast PAC*
- August 28, *Southeast PAC*
- August 30, *Davis PAC*
- September 8, *Southern Indiana PAC*

For more information and to register go to:
<https://ag.purdue.edu/arge/pac/Pages/Field-Days.aspx>



Poultry Experts to Host Live Sessions on Facebook

Have poultry health questions? Ask the experts during Facebook live sessions every Friday in June.

Whether you are a current flock owner, or just considering investing in ducks, chickens, turkeys or other poultry species, let the experts answer your questions on Facebook Live.

Beginning June 8, poultry enthusiasts will have the opportunity to hear—and ask!—experts discuss topics from bird nutrition to flock health to disease testing on four consecutive Fridays.

The Poultry Health Friday sessions will air live, online

at the “IN Avian Health” page (www.facebook.com/INAvianHealth) at 1 pm (Eastern) on: June 8, 15, 22, and 29. Sessions will feature avian experts from the Indiana State Board of Animal Health (BOAH), Purdue University, and the Indiana State Poultry Association (ISPA).

Anyone with an interest in poultry is welcome to submit questions ahead of time or tune in to ask live at: www.facebook.com/INAvianHealth Videos will be available on INAvianHealth to view at a later time.

Planned sessions include:

- June 8: Poultry Basics: Care,

Husbandry and Nutrition with Darrin Karcher, Purdue University

- June 15: What Small Flock Owners Should Know About the National Poultry Improvement Plan with Paul Brennan, ISPA
- June 22: “What’s Wrong with My Birds?” Poultry Health with Pat Wakenell, DVM, Purdue University
- June 29: Practical Biosecurity for Small Flocks and Exhibition Birds with Maria Cooper, DVM and Jean Doerflein, BOAH

For more information about poultry health programs visit: www.in.gov/

NATIONAL FARMERS MARKET WEEK IS AUGUST 5TH THROUGH THE 11TH. STOP BY TO SUPPORT ONE OF OUR THREE MARKETS AND LOCAL PRODUCERS AND ARTISTS

HARRISON COUNTY FARMERS MARKET

WEDNESDAYS:
 3:30-6:30 PM
SATURDAYS:
 8 AM-NOON

CORYDON FARMERS MARKET

TUESDAYS:
 11 AM – 1 PM
FRIDAYS:
 4-7 PM

ELIZABETH MARKET

TUESDAYS:
 4-7 PM

