

FARM BUREAU NEWS

TENNESSEE

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FBI Annual Meeting



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4-H Congress



Ag Day on the Hill brings the farm to the legislature – House Ag Committee Chairman and State Representative Stratton Bone helps Rutherford County swine producer John L. Batey calm down a baby pig during the 10th annual Ag Day on the Hill.

Ag Day celebrated at state capitol

Tennessee lawmakers celebrated 'Ag Day on the Hill' April 13, highlighting the importance of farming and forestry to the state of Tennessee and creating awareness of an industry that contributes more than \$60 billion a year to the state's economy and employs nearly half a million residents. Ag Day on the Hill featured a variety of events and exhibits, including special presentations to the House Agriculture Committee, livestock displays, a milking contest and many representatives from the agriculture and forest industries. Displays from agricultural organizations lined the halls as well

as dairy cows, mules, goats and other livestock located outside on the Plaza to show the importance of farming in our state. Lawmakers had an opportunity to mingle with area farmers and other agricultural industry leaders who were on-hand to talk about the importance of agriculture

During the House Agriculture Committee meeting, Chairman Bone highlighted many different aspects of agriculture by having representatives come forward to address the committee about their chosen vocation. The committee had a chance to hear from Brandon Whitt, a young farmer

from Rutherford County; National FFA Southern Region Vice President Chelsea Doss, a resident of Eagleville; two state 4-H Council members; and retired Colonel Leamon Bratton, who spoke passionately about the importance of agriculture, the involvement of young people in production agriculture and thanked the committee members for its continuing support of the agriculture enhancement cost-share program, which is still a crucial tool for many producers across the state to be able to make necessary improvements to their farms. The

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Official newspaper of Tennessee Farm Bureau



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Pettus Read, Editor
Lee Maddox, Assistant Editor
Melissa Burniston, Feature Writer
Stacey Warner, Graphic Designer
Misty McNeese, Advertising

P.O. Box 313, Columbia, TN 38402-0313
(931) 388-7872

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Farm Bureau Insurance increases sales, surplus despite weather losses and shaky economy

Farm Bureau Insurance of Tennessee is a "yardstick of quality" for the insurance industry, increasing sales and financial strength during an economic downturn, Chief Executive Officer Sonny Scoggins told stockholders at the companies' annual meeting.

"We've created an environment where excellence is expected," Scoggins said. "We have a passion for performance in terms of profitability, productivity, and people."

Farm Bureau Insurance of Tennessee is the trade name for the group of companies including Tennessee Farmers Mutual Insurance Company, Tennessee Farmers Assurance Company and Tennessee Farmers Life Insurance Company. Headquartered in Columbia, Tenn., the companies provide insurance services for members of the Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation.

Tennessee Farmers Life Insurance Company outperformed the industry in 2009, and Tennessee Farmers Mutual Insurance Company increased sales and boosted its surplus despite a year of unusually high property and casualty losses, company officials reported. Despite an uncertain economy, the companies increased stock values and declared dividends.

In remarks to shareholders, Scoggins defended Farm Bureau Insurance against political scapegoating from Washington.

Politicians "have found a villain to campaign against, and insurance companies have been cast in that role. Not just health insurance companies, but all insurance companies," Scoggins said. He went on to illustrate how Farm Bureau Insurance agents "sell peace of mind" and its other personnel deliver caring personal service, all while being excellent neighbors and citizens.

"Do any of these people sound like the villains they portray on the national news? These are people to be applauded, not criticized," Scoggins said, adding that Farm Bureau Insurance makes no apologies for working hard to be productive and profitable.

"Those are still American values, despite what they may tell you," he said.

LIFE COMPANY OUTPACES INDUSTRY BY RECORD MARGINS

The life company now has more than 270,000 policies totaling \$25.1 billion in force, an increase of 7.5 percent over 2008, reported Dennis Stephen, chief operating officer for Life Operations. The company outpaced the industry by 13.5 percent, as companies nationwide posted a 6 percent decline.

Life insurance premiums grew to \$98.5 million, an increase of 6 percent over 2008. In contrast, life insurance sales nationwide dropped 15 percent – the worst showing in 67 years. Tennessee Farmers Life outperformed the industry by the largest margin ever at 21 percent. Life sales surged in the last third of the year with the introduc-

tion of an enhancement that allows customers to place 30 percent more money in their universal life policies.

Annuities, with their guaranteed returns, are popular investment vehicles when stock portfolios decline, Stephen said. However, annuities strain company reserves and profitability, and it is easy to get too much of a good thing. Much of the industry, facing an annuity growth of 60 percent, simply halted all annuity sales at midyear and ended the year at a negative 1 percent, far below the 10 percent increase the industry would have preferred. In contrast, Tennessee Farmers Life managed annuity premium growth from a midyear high of 33.4 percent to 11.4 percent at year end, Stephen said.

"We made some mid-course corrections to increase our life premium and manage our annuity premium down to a more acceptable level," Stephen said.



In another key indicator, the company's mortality experience was 55.7 percent of expected, 9.3 percent below the pricing target of 65 percent.

The fast finish in 2009 has carried over into early 2010. "Our first quarter sales results are all well into double digits and all the key fundamentals are right on target. We have a high quality balance sheet, a reputation for integrity and excellence, and exceptional people who continue to rise to any challenge that comes their way," Stephen said.

DESPITE UNDERWRITING LOSS, P&C INCREASES SALES, ADDS TO SURPLUS

While 2009 might not be remembered for a series of catastrophic tornadoes, there was an increased frequency of less-publicized but expensive storms that drove the companies' loss ratio to 83.9 percent, said John Law, chief operating officer of Property and Casualty Operations. By comparison, other Farm Bureau companies' loss ratios were 72.4 percent, and the industry as a whole stood at 59.9 percent for the year.

Adding to the expense ratio were rapidly rising costs of materials and labor, and increased solicitation by roofing contractors. "They are dropping people off in neighborhoods going door-to-door, claiming from the front

yard that the owner has roof damage and encouraging the property owners to file a claim," Law said.

While uncontrollable losses were high, Tennessee Farmers Mutual continued to be an industry leader in efficiency, operating at a frugal 23.2 percent of premiums for a combined ratio of 107 percent. Other Farm Bureau insurance operations posted a 108.2 percent combined ratio in 2009, and the industry came in at an even 100 percent in a year that produced few hurricanes.

Law said the companies are responding with a continuing emphasis on good risk selection and an appropriate increase in property insurance rates.

The companies were able to increase in net written premium by 3.8 percent, Law said. Other Farm Bureau companies posted no change over 2008, while the industry declined 1.1 percent. Additionally, the companies were able to increase surplus by \$46 million. The

surplus-to-premium ratio for 2009 was \$1.92, while other Farm Bureau companies' ratio was 93 cents, and the industry as a whole stood at \$1.22.

STOCK PRICES UP, DIVIDENDS ANNOUNCED

The stock price for Tennessee Farmers Life was announced at \$30.76 per share, up from \$27.94 in 2008. This price represents a 15.6 percent increase in stockholder equity. The company's directors voted a 5 percent dividend and offered to purchase up to 200,000 shares.

In making the TFLIC stock announcement, Scoggins noted a significant recovery in the financial markets, an excellent year in low mortality and expenses, and an excellent year in productivity.

The stock price for Tennessee Farmers Assurance Company was announced at \$15.08 per share, an increase of 75 cents over 2008. A dividend of 3 percent was declared, and the directors have authorized the purchase of up to 200,000 shares, Scoggins said.

Scoggins noted that a \$400 investment in TFLIC at its inception in 1973 would have increased 156 times to \$62,462 today. Also, a \$1000 investment in TFAC when it began 18.5 years ago is now worth \$13,030. ♦

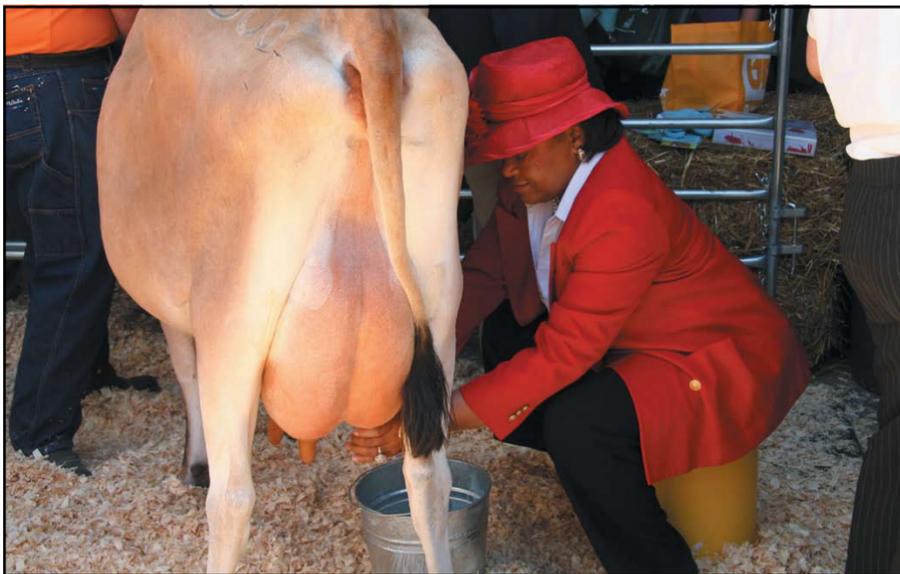
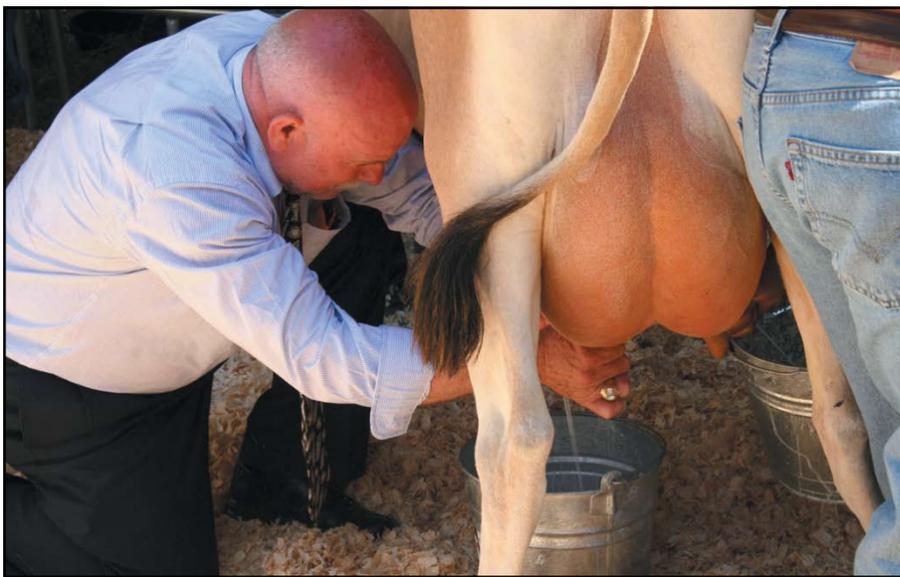
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committee honored Commissioner of Agriculture Ken Givens and Assistant Commissioner of Agriculture Terry Oliver with resolutions for their many years of service to the agricultural industry and their impact on the state. The room was filled with supporters of the agriculture industry and the committee was given vital information on why agriculture is important to the state and how the industry is faring in this turbulent economy.

For the second year in a row, Representative Dale Ford of Jonesborough won the milking champion award after defeating Senator Charlotte Burks of Monterey in the milking of two Jersey cows provided by UT's Dairy Research and Education Center in Lewisburg. This year for the

first time, a goat milking contest was held, where Representative Ty Cobb of Columbia defeated Representative Mike Turner of Nashville. The goats were provided by Noble Springs Dairy in Williamson County. Both milking champions were given trophies - milk pails made out to a "person with a lot of 'pull' on Capital Hill" and a check made out to Second Harvest Food Bank in honor of Rep. Ford and Rep. Cobb. The donation was made available by The Farm and Forest Families of Tennessee organization. This year, Second Harvest Food Bank of Middle Tennessee also had collection bins available at the Legislative Plaza throughout the day.

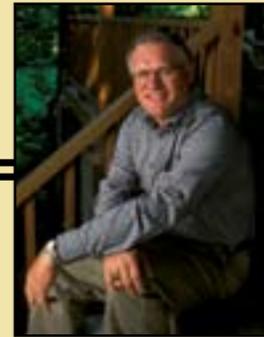
A great turnout and day for celebrating the state's most important industry, agriculture! ♦



Farming in Tennessee employs more than 342,000 Tennesseans, with 130,000 of those in agricultural production. Tennessee has around 79,000 farms covering 10.9 million acres with the average farm size about 138 acres.

Read All About It

By Pettus Read
Editor



Too many plows and nothing to pull them with

Uncle Sid told me one time, "Boy, don't sell your mule to buy a plow." His country wisdom has been an important part of my upbringing and has kept me out of trouble on numerous occasions. Now I find myself reaching the age of being the one able to give out the common sense wisdom like Uncle Sid. The only problem is most folks younger than me don't know what in the world I'm talking about if I use his terminology. In the aforementioned statement from Uncle Sid, most would have to think twice about what it means. They've never had experience with a mule and the only plow they have come in contact with has a motor on it. They would probably understand what the old man meant in today's language if he had said, "Don't sell your laptop to buy new software." Same meaning, only different work modes performed at a different day and time.

The statement by Uncle Sid fits in real well today with a problem that continues to increase across this state and nation. Each day we see the number of unwanted equine continue to grow and the problem of what to do with them has spilled over into the rural countryside in a way that many folks would never believe could happen this day and time. Unwanted horses are being turned loose into the rural acreage of our state much like dogs and cats have been for years. If it continues, we are going to be caught in the same "Catch 22" that our western Plains states have seen for years with the over population of wild horses. This absurd and senseless abandonment of unwanted animals

on private property belonging to our state's farmers is the result of unknowing people who purchase horses without taking into consideration the care needed for the well-being of livestock of their size. Plus, with the current recession causing hardships on families who own these animals, the first place cuts are often made to help finances is in the area of the least needed recreation. Many times the fun of owning and

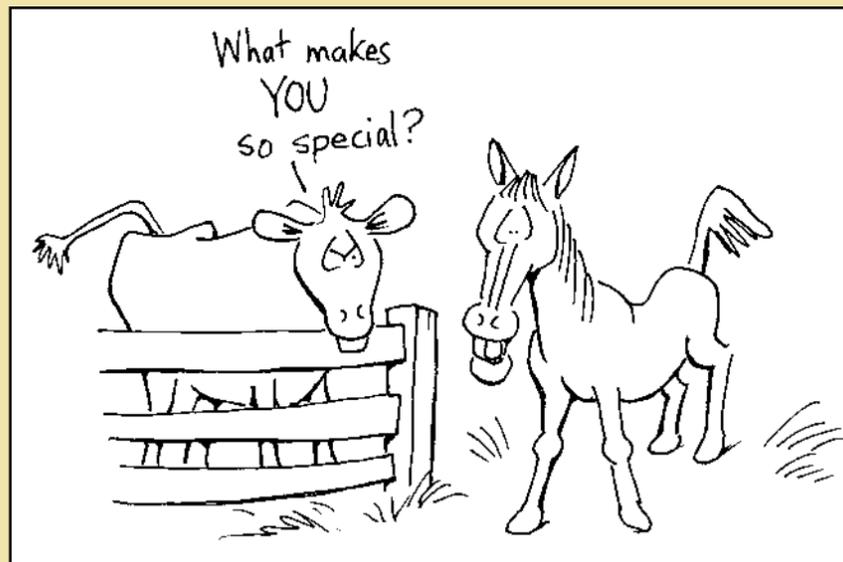
operation of horse processing plants in this country which for decades has been one of the major sources of removing unwanted horses from the equine statistical numbers in our country. None of the plants are currently in operation due to the U.S. Department of Agriculture not allowing inspectors to complete inspections to license plants while the Equine Cruelty Act is still pending.

concerned, but I do wonder which is more cruel when you also have to use the words unfed, uncared for and neglected when applied to horses on five acre lots that are unwanted with no place for them to go.

Just last month, entertainer Willie Nelson spoke out against legislation being presented in our own state capital that would allow horse processing plants in our state and also regulate them to be humane in their operation. East Tennessee farmer and state Representative Frank Nicely presented the legislation to the House Ag Committee hoping to find a solution and to help the problem. I really appreciate his efforts to try to make this thing work. But, Nelson thinks we can use adoption and construct preserves in this country to take care of the unwanted horses.

That does sound good, but I have to use some of Uncle Sid's common sense wisdom when it comes to wondering how well that will work. I live in the country on a farm located only 11 miles from a pet adoption agency and still have dogs "dropped off" at my place. The adoption animal shelters do a great job and I have received some of my pets from there, but we still have a problem with folks mistreating their pets and too many animals to go around for those who really want them. A dog or cat is a small animal, a horse is much larger and a whole lot more involved when it comes to their care.

By closing the processing plants, I feel we have sold the mule to buy a plow. Now, what do we do with all the plows that we have and nothing to pull them with? ♦



maintaining the animals has also waned after time and the desire to exercise and feed the horse also decreases.

The real problem today is that there is no place for unwanted horses. The horse markets same as do not exist in most areas for individuals to sell their animals because who buys livestock that no one wants. Legislation in our nation's capital, which has been there for a while, if passed, will prevent the

There are those who say the plants are a cruel way for a horse to die and selling the animals, as a food product to other countries where horses are a commodity, is not something this country should be involved in. Horses as livestock have been used for this purpose for many years along with being a source for pet food and other products that we all use daily. When the words die and slaughter are used, anyone with a heart has to feel somewhat

State Library and Archives staff in search of Civil War memorabilia

More than two decades after a statewide effort to copy and catalog photographs of historical significance, the staff of the Tennessee State Library and Archives (TSLA) will be hitting the state's highways and byways again in search of Civil War memorabilia. The materials TSLA staff members find during their travels will be copied, archived and used to create a digital exhibit commemorating the 150th anniversary of the Civil War.

During the 1980s, TSLA staff carried out a successful preservation project for historical photographs called "Looking

Back at Tennessee." As part of the project, TSLA staff members and a mobile photo lab visited courthouse squares around the state to copy historically significant photographs. Citizens were offered the opportunity to bring in their old photographs to have them copied and preserved by professional archivists.

The original photos were returned to their owners, but the thousands of photo negatives collected became part of TSLA's publicly accessible holdings. Today, they form one of the most important and widely researched col-

lections of images depicting the way Tennesseans lived, worked and played in the past.

The new initiative, called "Looking Back: The Civil War in Tennessee," will provide Tennesseans the opportunity to have their Civil War manuscripts, artifacts and photographs digitally copied and preserved for posterity without leaving their own communities. Materials collected across the state will be used to create the virtual exhibit commemorating the war in Tennessee.

TSLA staff, with the cooperation of local archivists and librarians, will

digitize and provide guidance on basic conservation techniques at the locations they visit.

In return, participants will receive free digitization services, copies of the digital images and the opportunity to have their Civil War manuscripts and artifacts preserved digitally for future generations.

Additional information on the project, including a schedule of upcoming locations and eligibility guidelines, is available at www.tn.gov/tsla/cwtn. Or contact Jami Awalt at (615) 245-3470 or civilwar.tsala@tn.gov. ♦

The Ag Agenda

By Bob Stallman
American Farm Bureau President



Greenhouse gas regulations scary as old horror flicks

We're all familiar with the typical B-rate horror flick where you just know the young starlet will stumble on a broken tree branch while being chased by the bad guy. Although you see it coming and know her demise is inevitable, you still want to smash your knuckle into the silver screen to halt the hideous phantom.

Unlike the movies, a very real disaster could be heading toward farm and ranch families. Unless something is done to stop the Environmental Protection Agency from regulating greenhouse gases, agriculture could face some pretty dire consequences. But unlike the helpless girl who stumbles and falls, farmers and ranchers are fighting back.

NIGHTMARE IN THE COUNTRY

Last year, EPA set out to regulate emissions from both mobile sources, such as cars and trucks, and stationary sources, such as buildings and factories. According to the timeline announced by EPA, regulations could go into effect as early as next year, and these requirements could have unfortunate consequences for farmers and ranchers.

While EPA says it does not intend to regulate small emissions sources right away, farmers and ranchers run the risk of being caught by what an individual state has set as an amount of emissions per source (Montana's is 15 tons). And even though EPA's proposed rule contends it will begin regulating sources that emit more than 25,000 tons of greenhouse gases, the plain language in the Clean Air Act states that sources of 100 tons to 250 tons are subject to regulation.

These new EPA greenhouse gas requirements could lead to widespread costs for the economy and will put a strain on federal and state budgets that are not equipped to handle issuing the number of permits that will be required.

For farmers and ranchers thinking of expanding or renovating their operations, they will have to think twice. By regulating carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases under the Clean Air Act, livestock and other agricultural producers will be spending their days trying to obtain costly and time-consuming permits as conditions to continue farming. For those sources now subject to the law, construction permits can run into tens of thousands of dollars.

FARMER'S REVENGE

The good news is we have a date certain and know what we are up against. Yes, we see the monster lurking behind the tree. It's now up to Congress to knuckle-up to stop it from happening.

Farm Bureau strongly backs a Senate resolution by Sen. Lisa Murkowski (R-Alaska) and Senate Agriculture Committee Chairman Blanche Lincoln (D-Ark.), to disapprove of EPA's greenhouse gas regulations. There are also two companion measures in the House: one by Agriculture Committee Chairman Collin Peterson (D-Minn.) and Rep. Ike Skelton (D-Mo.), and one by Rep. Joe Barton (R-Texas).

If Congress does not approve these resolutions, EPA will forge ahead and farmers will be forced to grapple with a scope of regulation we have never before faced in our history, all while trying to cope with requirements that are economically burdensome and environmentally questionable. That's fact, not fiction.

Farmers and ranchers must contact their congressional members and let them know the impact these costly regulations will have on their operations and the economy in general.

Unlike the girl in the horror flick, falling down is not an option for agriculture. We must band together to escape the scary regulator's grasp. ♦

Center for Profitable Agriculture names new financial analysis specialist

The Center for Profitable Agriculture welcomes Hal Pepper to their staff at the Spring Hill headquarters.

The Center for Profitable Agriculture is a partnership between the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture and the Tennessee Farm Bureau Federation. The Center provides educational opportunities and business development services to the food and fiber sector of Tennessee's economy. As a CPA specialist, Pepper will be assisting state farmers with value-added enterprises in financial analysis, furthering CPA's mission of helping farm families improve income from value-added ventures.

"I look forward to working with agri-entrepreneurs in Tennessee," says Pepper. "There is much potential for increasing revenue from agritourism and from processing, packaging and marketing the commodities raised on our farms."

Value-added agriculture is a growing sector of the state's economy, thanks, in part, to the establishment of CPA 12 years ago. Specialists with CPA work with farmers across the state

to evaluate value-added farm enterprises. One example is Sweetwater Valley Farm, a dairy operation in East Tennessee, which now offers a fully stocked cheese shop, featuring 15 flavors of cheese as well as gifts and snacks.

As the new member of CPA, Pepper brings 25 years of experience as an Extension farm business management specialist in Alabama. But his work with value-added agriculture goes back even further than that. Pepper grew up on a peach farm in northern Alabama. He has many childhood memories of picking peaches at the family orchard and then selling them at roadside stands and farmers markets on hot summer days.

"With my experience, I understand the importance of providing a quality product and developing a good relationship with your customers," says Pepper. "This will help me as we work with producers, Extension agents, and partners to encourage value-added agriculture development."

To learn more about the CPA, visit cpa.utk.edu. ♦

Tennessee horse owners to see new look on Coggins test forms

As most horse owners know, you must have a bright yellow form as proof of a negative Coggins test in order to participate in shows, sales, trail rides or similar events where equine are gathered. Starting this month, however, those bright yellow forms will have a new look in Tennessee.



The Tennessee Department of Agriculture has begun using a perforated mark on the bottom of the distinctive yellow forms. The forms are required as proof that horses and other equine have tested negative for Equine Infectious Anemia, otherwise known as a Coggins test.

"With the new perforated mark of approval, we hope to serve Tennessee's horse community better by making

the official Coggins test form easier to identify," said State Veterinarian Charles Hatcher. "We want fair, show and sale operators and other event organizers to be aware of the new look and to recognize that it meets state animal health requirements for EIA testing."

Rather than a standard signature, the new form will have a series of small holes punched at the bottom to authenticate the certificate. The punched holes will spell out "KORD ADDL" for the department's Kord Animal Disease Diagnostic Laboratory, the test date and "NEG" for negative. The new method of showing proof will help reduce chances of fraud, reduce laboratory processing and ultimately save the state money.

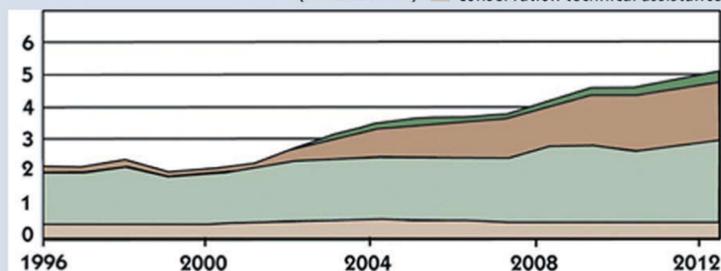
The new look of the Coggins test form does not change the requirement that horse owners show proof of a negative test within six months of selling a horse or when horses of different owners are commingled.

EIA is a viral disease of horses that is transmitted through insect bites. Once infected, a horse remains infected throughout its lifetime and can serve as a reservoir for transmission to other horses. Through disease testing and surveillance, Tennessee normally experiences a low incidence of EIA each year. For more information visit www.TN.gov/agriculture or call the state veterinarian's office at 615-837-5120. ♦

Spending for Major USDA Conservation Programs

(Billion dollars)

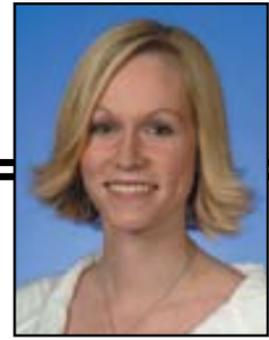
- Ag land preservation programs
- Working land programs
- Land retirement programs
- Conservation technical assistance



Innovative Agriculture

By **Melissa Burniston**

Assistant Director of Communications



Tennessee's farmers are ready and waiting for you



Just as April showers bring May flowers, spring officially blooming means a shift in our thinking from staying inside with those comfort foods like soup and roast to getting outside and enjoying fresh from the farm goodies like fruits and vegetables. As the days get longer and hotter, we begin pulling out the grill, prepping the backyard for the garden and planning what the summer is going to hold. The burning question in everyone's mind becomes "Where do I go to find the freshest, best looking produce, plants or meat near me?"

The answer can be found on your nearest internet connection! Log on to www.tnfarmfresh.com and click on "find a farmer" to see what farmers and products are available fresh from the farm in your neck of the woods! You can also search for products to see when they are in season or if they are even grown in Tennessee. And you can always look for the Tennessee Farm Fresh logo, proudly showing you the product you are buying is from a Tennessee farm.

Tiffany Howard, program coordinator of the Tennessee Farm Fresh Program, says the spring and summer months are the busiest for many of the producers in her program, but they are also the most fun for everyone.

"Even though there are plenty of Tennessee Farm Fresh products available year round, the warmer weather does bring more options to the table and seems to put people more in the mood to buy locally," she says.

The Tennessee Farm Fresh program is now in its third year and has more than 100 producers across the state to provide a great product from your local community to grace your

dinner, lunch or breakfast plate this summer season. The program is proud to showcase farmers from across the state who grow the food, fiber and fuel that our state and nation depend on. Finding farm fresh food near you and supporting your local community is one way to know where your food comes from and to guarantee a product that is fresh.

To encourage even more participation by the public, this year the Farm Fresh program is offering a rewards program for people who purchase products from a

Farm Fresh producer. Once a product is purchased, the person can log on to tnfarmfresh.com and enter their name and what farm they bought from and be entered to win a prize. Prizes will be awarded periodically throughout the summer and will consist of products made in Tennessee. The farm with the most entries will also be rewarded.

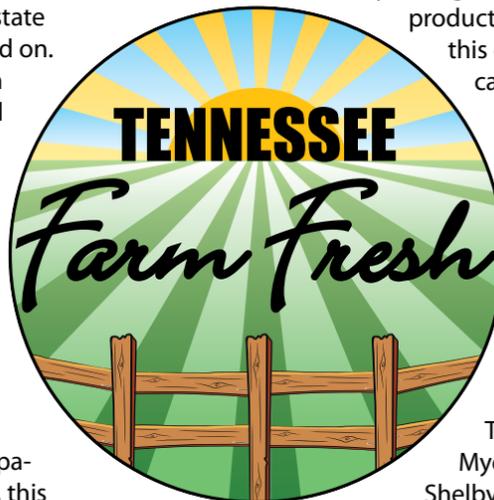
"The goal of the Farm Fresh program is to assist producers with the promotion of their farm products and to provide consumers with a connection to these local products," says Howard, "And we do that by marketing and advertising statewide through different medias and educational efforts."

Buying locally means that while you are getting the freshest possible product out there, you also are benefiting your local economy and keeping agriculture possible in your community. And the choices aren't as limited

as you might think as to what products are available in

this great state. You can find anything from vegetables and fruits to dairy products like milk and cheese to meats to sod to plants and everything in between.

From Greene County in East Tennessee with Myers Greenhouse to Shelby County in West Tennessee with Harris Farms and Jones Orchard, and most counties in between, there's a wide variety



of local products just waiting to be discovered!

"Tennessee Farm Fresh represents producers who offer a fresh product straight from the farm. Tennessee offers a wide variety of fruits, vegetables, meats, dairy products, nursery items, honey and much more. I always encourage people to take a day and go out to a local farm or farmers market with friends or family and enjoy the finest that Tennessee has to offer," Howard said.



And if you are a producer that has farm fresh products to offer the public and haven't looked into the Tennessee Farm Fresh program, here are some of the benefits of joining! Membership in this program offers a great opportunity for farmers to get their products out in the public's eye without having to do all the work themselves. By signing up, producers automatically get their farm and information on the Tennessee Farm Fresh website and the directory that is distributed statewide; they receive promotional materials like banners, stickers, pens, price cards, bags, etc. with the Tennessee Farm Fresh logo on it to use on their farms; and they also get free sign-ups to educational workshops on farm improvements, new technologies and marketing tools. This is in addition to the other marketing tools that Howard and the Tennessee Farm Fresh program work on throughout the year to get the producers in the spotlight to sell their products.

So whether you are looking for those blackberries you remember as a kid tasting like heaven when you bit into them, some fresh vegetables to make a delicious summer treat, some great tasting meat to fire up on the grill or you just want to support your local economy by buying within your community, there's a farm near you with some Tennessee Farm Fresh products just waiting for you! ♦



State FFA 'Leads Out Loud' in Gatlinburg

Lead Out Loud was the theme of the 82nd annual Tennessee State FFA Convention held in Gatlinburg March 29 - 31, and students from across the state took that theme to heart as they competed in state career development events, participated in state talent on stage, attended leadership workshops and made memories to last a lifetime.

More than 3,000 students, advisors and guests attended the convention from Johnson to Shelby counties and all in between to celebrate the accom-

plishments of the year and decide on state winners to represent Tennessee at the National FFA Convention in October in Indianapolis.

There were many highlights during the convention, with 47 students honored for the supervised agricultural experience programs, where the student has developed an agricultural project and builds on it each year to have a hands-on application of skills learned in the classroom. This is the highest honor one can receive in the

state association for your SAE. In addition nearly 500 students from across the state received their state FFA degrees, the highest tribute a student can attain in the Tennessee FFA. And nearly 20 career development events are held during the week of convention as well, among those being agriculture communications, agriculture issues, farm business management, job interview, speaking events, and a range of other leadership based events.

Twenty-six candidates vied for the

eight coveted state FFA officer spots and were full of anticipation when the nominating committee called out the 2010-2011 state officer team, with President Emily Buck of Wilson Central FFA leading the newly elected team and closing out the convention. And so FFA members will continue Leading Out Loud as they prepare for National FFA Convention, continue working on their SAE's, volunteer in their communities and look forward to next years 83rd State FFA Convention. ♦



Parliamentary Procedure Winning Team - McEwen FFA: From bottom left, Lindsey Oliphant, Hillary Ross, Katherine Hooper, Lindsay Baker, Sydnie Gill, Cara Farris



Extemporaneous Public Speaking Winner - Drew Nash of the White House Heritage FFA Chapter



Prepared Public Speaking Winner - Peyton Graham of the Munford FFA Chapter



FFA Creed Winner - Sarah Ramsey of the Sneedville FFA Chapter



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FFA Ceremonies Winning Team - Munford FFA: Top from left, Tony Lombardo, Tylor Howell, Shelby Simmons, Hadley Pinner, Tara Swirka, Lauren Agcanas, Jessie Pyland



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Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program applications now available



The Tennessee Department of Agriculture has released the 2010 application for the Tennessee Agricultural Enhancement Program. Applications can be submitted June 1-7 and should not be postmarked prior to June 1. Applications are accepted on a first come, first serve basis, so producers are encouraged to apply early. Producer Diversification remains a competitive program and applications with proposals will be accepted June 1-7.

"The Ag Enhancement Program remains strong and we expect to be able to put several millions of dollars on the ground to help farmers continue to make strategic investments," said state Agriculture Commissioner Ken Givens. "We encourage farmers to apply early as we expect another year of high demand for these cost share opportunities."

This year's program offers the same menu of cost share opportunities as last year. This includes the livestock equipment, cattle genetics, hay storage, feed storage, grain storage and producer diversification opportunities. To date, TAEP has provided cost share funds for more than 15,500 projects. A recent study has shown that for every state dollar invested, an additional \$4.64 is generated in local economic activity.

New this year, the cattle genetics cost share opportunity has expanded to include some costs associated with bull soundness evaluations (BSE) and pregnancy testing. Also, fruits and vegetables have been moved to the priority area under producer diversification, allowing certain projects to be eligible for a 50 percent cost share.

TAEP is a state funded program established by Governor Phil Bredesen and supported by the General Assembly to increase farm income in Tennessee by helping farmers invest in better farming practices and by encouraging diversification and innovation. Through TAEP, farmers can qualify for 35 or 50 percent cost share, ranging from a maximum of \$1,200 to \$15,000 depending on the project.

Applications are available at most farm agencies including USDA Farm Service Agency, UT Extension and Farm Bureau offices, as well as most farm supply stores. Producers can get important messages and updates on the program by calling 1-800-342-8206.

For more information or to download an application, visit www.TN.gov/agriculture/enhancement. ♦

Energy Production Surveys conducted for first time

The On-Farm Energy Production Survey is being conducted for the first time as a supplement to the 2007 Census of Agriculture. Forms will be mailed out to the operators nationwide that indicated on the 2007 Census of Agriculture that they are engaged in on-farm energy production.

The On-Farm Energy Production Survey will gather information about on-farm renewable energy production including the use of wind turbines, solar panels, anaerobic digesters, and other alternative energy sources.

By participating in the On-Farm Energy Production Survey, you are providing policy makers and the public with real life information about on-farm energy production, a topic that is gaining more attention as energy efficiency is becoming increasingly important.

The On-Farm Energy Production Survey is your opportunity to ensure

that America's farmers and ranchers receive recognition for the environmental benefits they provide and for their commitment to preserving the land on which their livelihood depends.

This survey, being conducted for the first time, will further assist NASS in its ongoing effort to accurately depict U.S. farms and ranches today.

As with the Census of Agriculture, the On-Farm Energy Production Survey is your voice, your future, and your responsibility.

For more information about the On-Farm Energy Production Survey, call (888) 424-7828 or visit www.agcensus.usda.gov.

All individual responses for NASS surveys and the Census of Agriculture are protected by law. NASS safeguards the confidentiality of all responses, ensuring that no individual producer or operation can be identified. ♦

Beef Cattle Outlook

By **Emmit L. Rawls**
UT Professor
Agricultural Economics



Hot markets affect producer marketing decisions

We have had a bit of a perfect storm this spring, or perfect spring seems a more appropriate description. On income tax day, the fed cattle market was \$14 per hundred higher than a year ago at \$100. Feeder steers M-1 grade weighing 700 to 800 pounds were \$10 + per hundred higher than a year ago at near \$100 and 500 to 600 pound similar cattle were \$115 versus \$105 a year ago. Utility cows were about \$6 per hundred higher than last year and Omaha corn was 40 cents a bushel cheaper than last year.

Many producers are taking advantage of prices not seen for two to three years by moving cattle to market. Others are anxious about holding fall calves for planned marketing this summer or early fall, fearing prices could be lower. One must not forget that the cheapest gain of the year is right ahead of us when grass is at its peak growth. Yes, prices typically decline from spring into summer and fall. Furthermore, prices decline as stocker cattle add weight. Remember that when prices are falling, cattle must be gaining weight to hold the total dollars together.

One tool I use is to value the cattle at today's price, being realistic about grade and weight and color or breed. Add to that value the cost to own them until the planned marketing date. Include spring working costs like fly tags, implants, re-vaccinations, sale commission, etc. Include an interest charge on the calf and expenses. Do not forget a charge for pasture based on rental value that you might be able to get. Sum the value of the calf plus the other costs just mentioned and divide by the expected weight when normal marketing would take place.

Use a conservative rate of gain as we never know what mid-summer moisture will be. The result of the division will yield a break-even price at which one would be indifferent as to whether the sale is made now or at the later planned market date. The change in the price from this spring to say, August can then be compared with the historical price change for that period.

One tool we have had available since July 2007 is Livestock Risk Protection (LRP) Insurance available through some crop insurance agents. This insurance is available for cattle which will be owned 13 or more weeks into the future and at different coverage (price) levels, each at appropriate premium cost. It has to be paid for when purchased, but is flexible as to the number of cattle to be insured, up to 1,000 head in a single policy (price). The coverage prices are announced every week day after 5:00 p.m. Central Time and is available until 9:00 a.m. the following morning at those prices and premiums. So, if a producer is considering whether to market calves now or grow them for sale at a later date, they can buy insurance which will at least cover the value now and some or all of the associated costs to grow to a heavier weight. Should the market go up, the insurance is not needed and has no value at the ending date of the coverage. Should the USDA feeder steer index go below the coverage price on the ending date of the policy, the insurance pays the difference between the two. It is sort of like having today's price and a higher one too should prices go up. The LRP is certainly worth a hard look for anyone in the cattle business. ♦



Young Farmers & Ranchers Report

Christy Rogers Brown

2010 YF&R Reporter

Spring has sprung, trees are budding, flowers are blooming, grass is growing, cows are calving and most important - ground temperature has reached prime planting range. Farmers are busy adjusting planters, calculating fertilizer costs, and selecting seed for this year's crop. In the midst of all this there are some very serious issues facing agriculturalists. Legislation was introduced to increase the penalty and definition of animal cruelty to include and pertain to livestock. We are in the midst of a great battle with extreme animal rights groups such as PETA and the HSUS, both of whom have vegan agendas.

Recently, several Tennessee YF&R State Committee members were privileged to have the opportunity to sit through the Agriculture Committee meeting where there was discussion on the Animal Welfare Bill. It is extremely important to farmers to be proactive in discussion involving penalties and laws regarding animal welfare. Tennessee Farm Bureau President Lacy Upchurch recently released a letter addressing this issue. The letter can be viewed at www.tnfarmbureau.org and is posted under agriculture headlines. ALDF, Animal Legal Defense Fund, supports the fact that TN has one of the most stringent Animal Welfare laws. ALDF is a group of attorneys that was formed in 1979, whose goal is to promote anti cruelty laws and animal welfare. These laws need to be enforced and the education of people in charge of caring for animals needs to be pushed. Most animal cruelty cases stem from animal owners who do not have the knowledge or financial means to care for their animals. Farm Bureau feels that the current laws are plenty strict and that they just need to be enforced by local judicial systems.

Two recent news worthy, campaigns launched with the intention of shedding light on the true goals of HSUS have rendered the agriculture sector victorious. The first happened because of an internet savvy cattleman Troy Hadrick. Yellow Tail Wines of Australia teamed up with HSUS in a campaign they called Tails for Tails, which was intended to help save animals. The truth is that HSUS has a strong anti-animal agenda and their ultimate goal is to abolish all animal agriculture. Troy Hadrick simply took five minutes or less of his time, made and posted a video on facebook, and drew a tremendous amount of attention to the support of HSUS by Yellow Tail Wine. Yellow Tail Wine responded to this activity by saying that in the future they would no longer support HSUS. To read more about Hadrick you can visit his website at www.advocatesforag.com.

The second victory came from Tennessee YF&R members when they found out that Pilot Oil was donating money to HSUS. Pilot Oil listened and released a statement stating that they supported agriculture and would no longer support HSUS. There should never be doubt that Tennessee Farm Bureau mandates humane treatment of all animals. Tennessee Farm Bureau wants the monetary support of animals to be directed to local animal shelters and towards educating animal owners on proper nutrition, housing and health care of these animals.

Another advocate for agriculture is Chris Chinn, former chairman for the American Farm Bureau Young Farmer and Rancher Association. Chris is also "famous" for her YouTube video - The Truth about Modern Hog Production. Current American Young Farmer and Rancher Chairman Will Gilmer of Alabama has also grabbed the attention of agriculturalists and consumers with

his humorous, yet poignant Moo Tube Minute Videos. All of these individuals play an important and effective role in positively promoting agriculture. Whether they are fighting against extremist anti-agriculture groups, simply raising their family on a productive and environmentally friendly swine operation, or posting hilarious videos on Facebook, Chris Chinn, Will Gilmer and Troy Hadrick are heroes to many young farmers and ranchers across the country. They delivered sessions at the YF&R National Convention related to what you can do on Facebook and YouTube to promote agriculture.

The sessions presented by the previously mentioned agricultural activists inspired Tennessee YF&R State Committee members to start a Facebook Page. The page can be found at TN Farm Bureau Young Farmers and Ranchers on Facebook. Please feel free to add comments, links to agricultural friendly pages, or information about YF&R activities in your county. This will be a great way to engage and spread positive news of agriculture in Tennessee. Tennessee YF&R was also extremely proud of Jacob Herman who made it to the elite eight in the Collegiate Discussion Meet while we were in Tulsa. Agricultural students came from all across the country to discuss agricultural topics during this exciting competition. Jacob advanced in two different rounds to make it into the top eight.

Engaging in and standing up for agriculture is extremely important to the survival and success of family farms in Tennessee. There are several upcoming opportunities available to promote involvement and leadership in YF&R. These contests will help individual young farmers to improve and add to the success of their farming operations. The 2010 Young Farmer and Rancher Achievement

application is due to the Farm Bureau Office on May 15. This is an exciting opportunity to evaluate and brag about your farming successes. There are also great prizes for county, district and state winners. The state winner of the Achievement Contest will receive up to 150 hours of use on a Case IH tractor, \$500 from Dodge, RTV loaded to keep from TFBF, \$500 in qualified Farm Bureau services, insurance on the Case IH tractor for one year, and a one year contract with American Cellular.

The Environmental Stewardship application is due to the county UT Extension offices by June 1. Requirements for this contest are to evaluate the potential environmental effects of practices, structure and conditions on farms; plan to deal with significant environmental/conservation problems and opportunities; show significant progress in implementing their plan over two to four years, or longer; and be YF&R and Farm Bureau members.

The John Willis Memorial Scholarship Application is due June 18. This is a scholarship awarded to an agricultural student who plans to attend UTK, UTM, TTU or MTSU.

Take a stand for agriculture, speak your mind, develop some convictions and be active. These contests give YF&R members an opportunity to tell their story and to gain confidence in knowing they are part of a very admirable industry. Small steps can lead to great victories. The announcement of these awards will be made at YF&R Summer Conference, which is held annually at the state Farm Bureau office in Columbia. Please make plans to attend this fun, educational and inspiring event July 23-25.

"The best way to teach people is by telling a story."

— Kenneth Blanchard

TDA accepting proposals for Specialty Crop Block Grants

The Tennessee Department of Agriculture is now accepting proposals for the USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant Program. These funds will help enhance the competitiveness of specialty crops, which are fruits and vegetables, dried fruit, tree nuts and nursery crops including floriculture. Administered by TDA, the grants are authorized through the federal Food, Conservation and Energy Act of 2008.

"As demand for locally grown fruits and vegetables and other products increases, specialty crops are growing in importance and will continue to have a significant impact on Tennessee's farm economy," said state Agriculture Commissioner Ken Givens. "These grants will fund innovation,

research and training that will help keep our farms viable."

Proposals are divided into three main categories:

Good Ag Practices/Food Safety/Traceability – This category includes, but is not limited to training, specialized equipment and facilities needed to incorporate GAPs, GMPs and/or specialty crop traceability.

Farmers Markets/Wholesale Produce – This category includes, but is not limited to, cool storage, distribution and handling needs. A priority is establishing wholesale produce auctions.

Innovative Specialty Crop Projects – This category includes, but is not limited to, on-farm needs

that enhance marketing, production, packing and/or distribution of specialty crops.

Tennessee is eligible for more than \$517,000 in federal Specialty Crop Block Grant Program funds to support grower education, infrastructure needs, food safety and marketing. Universities, institutions, cooperatives, producers, industry or community-based organizations may submit a proposal for project funding for up to \$50,000.

Eligible projects must be forward thinking and demonstrate a positive impact on Tennessee agriculture and demonstrate significant potential for increasing farm income through the improvement or expansion of farm or

agribusiness operations involving the production of specialty crop products. Demonstration of long-term benefits is also required.

Proposals must be delivered to TDA no later than May 21. Proposal requirements and other information can be found at <http://www.tn.gov/agriculture/marketing/produce.html>. Once proposals are received, a panel will review and rank them.

Applicants who submit a project will be notified by June 18 if TDA intends to present the project to USDA for funding.

For more information regarding the USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant Program, contact Rob Beets at 615-837-5160 or Robert.Beets@TN.gov. ♦

Tennessee's Agri-Events

Small Ruminant College, May 14-15

Lane Agri-Park, Murfreesboro

The Tennessee Small Ruminant College will be May 14-15 at the Lane Agri-Park in Murfreesboro with topics that should interest anyone who is in or starting farming with goats and sheep. This event will focus on both goats (meat and dairy) and sheep (wool and hair). Topics to be discussed are genetics, breeding and reproduction. The needed nutrition for small ruminant meat, milk and wool production will be presented for both confinement and/or forage-based production. A detailed FAMACHA training, fecal analysis and body condition scoring hands-on training will be offered along with health and biosecurity man-

agement techniques for the small farmer to enhance their income by lowering overheads.

There is a \$50.00 registration fee per individual (\$90.00 per couple) for both days. This includes two full meals, snacks and a professional proceedings. Pre-registration is appreciated but not required. Make checks payable to: TSU/CEP and mail to Tennessee State University, Cooperative Extension Program, (attn: An Peischel), 3500 J.A. Merritt Blvd., Box 9635, Nashville, TN, 37209-1561. For additional information call 615-963-5539 or E-mail apeischel@tnstate.edu

Antique Tractor Show and Pull, May 22

Belvidere Community Center

Come and be a part of the 2010 spring Antique Tractor Show and Pull to be held once again at the Belvidere Community Center May 22, with the show beginning at 10:00 a.m. and the pull starting at 1:00.

There will be lots of food and fun

with proceeds going to FFA scholarships. It is sponsored by the Franklin County Young Farmers and Ranchers and you may get more information by calling Jonathan Stines at 931-224-5676 or Cindy Stewart at 931-308-7406.

A.I. Clinic, June 5-6

A sheep and goat Artificial Insemination Clinic will be June 5-6 at the Lane Agri-Park in Murfreesboro. The cost is \$100 per person.

For additional information call An Peischel at 615-963-5539 or E-mail apeischel@tnstate.edu

Farm Bureau Annual Meetings

Hamblen County Farm Bureau
Monday, June 14, 7:00 p.m.
Horner Dougherty Pavilion in Cherokee Park

18th annual Fenders' Antique Tractor, Engine & Homestead Show, July 9-10

Join us in Sweetwater for the 18th annual Fenders' Antique Tractor, Engine & Homestead Show, July 9-10, 2010. Registration is at 10:00 a.m. but you may arrive anytime prior to that.

From Interstate 75, exit 60 or 62, follow directions on signs.

For more information contact: Archie Jenkins, 2984 Loudon Ridge

Road, Lenoir City, TN 37771, 865-986-5785; Roy Fox, 517 County Road #350, Sweetwater, TN 37874, 423-519-7968; Daris Richesin, 23003 Stockton Valley Road, Philadelphia, TN, 865-213-5496.

You may also visit the website at fendersshow.com

Admission is \$3.00 (exhibitors free), children 12 and under free.



Five UT Field Days planned for Tennessee beef cattle industry

Five field days are set for the spring and summer of 2010 by the University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture. These events will provide researched based, proven information to Tennessee beef cattle producers. Beef producers are encouraged to attend.

The first field day is the "Beef and Forage" Field Day that will be held June 10 at the Blount Farm of the East Tennessee Research and Education Center just south of Knoxville near the Lakemont Community. Registration begins at 7:30 a.m.

The second of the year is the "Tobacco and Beef and More" that will be June 24 at the Highland Rim Research and Education Center near Springfield. Activities begin at 7:00 a.m.

A "Beef Stop" has been part of the Milan No-Till Field Day for 20 years and will be again this summer. In past years, more than a thousand producers have "stopped by" the "Beef" tent for an hour of information presented in four talks by UT beef cattle researchers and Extension specialists. The Milan No-till Field Day is scheduled for July 22. Program begins at 7:00 a.m.

Tennessee Sheep Producers Association announces 2010 events

The Tennessee Sheep Producers Association has announced six activities for 2010 that sheep producers should know about.

During April 30 - May 1, the Tennessee Shearing School will be conducted at the Tennessee Livestock Center in Murfreesboro, taught by a 'world class' shearer from Australia. The school is open to those that have little experience in shearing to those that have been shearing sheep for a number of years. Additional information is available at animalscience.ag.utk.edu

One of the highlights of the year is the Tennessee Junior Sheep Conference scheduled for May 28-29 at Hyder-Burks Pavilion in Cookeville. This conference is planned to provide information and training on selecting, managing, training and showing ewes and lambs for the upcoming show season.

Wool will be collected from the Tennessee sheep producers on June 8 and June 10. The June 8 "pool" will be held at the Maury Farmers Cooperative in Columbia and the June 10 pool will be at the Foothill Farmers Cooperative in Maryville. The location of the Wool "gathering" is at the fertilizer building on Hwy 129/411 South. Producers are

At the Plateau Research and Education Center, Crossville, the "Steak and Potatoes" Field Day will again be conducted August 3. Activities begin at 8:00 a.m.

As fall comes and the leaves start to "turn," make plans to travel to Greeneville, Tennessee to the Research and Education Center at Greeneville for the Northeast Tennessee Beef Exposition, October 7 at 7:30 a.m.

Tennessee cattle producers should take advantage of these educational opportunities and apply what would be appropriate to their operation. The purpose of these field days is to provide the latest up to date information to Tennessee cattle producers. Producers should take advantage of these educational opportunities and "take home" the information that would be applicable to their operations.

The field days are sponsored by UT AgResearch and UT Extension. For additional information, contact the local UT Extension office located in all of Tennessee counties. Or, go to the field day web site at <http://agriculture.tennessee.edu/news/FieldDays/> ♦

encouraged to plan to have their sheep sheared and the wool prepared for "pooling" on these dates in that these are the only two opportunities for marketing wool in Tennessee and capture the top price.

The highlight for Junior Sheep Producers is the Tennessee Junior Livestock Exposition which will be at the Hyder-Burks Pavilion in Cookeville, Tennessee. Youth from 60 Tennessee counties are expected to exhibit more than 1,000 ewes and market lambs at this 4-day event.

The Tennessee Sheep Producers Association Annual Meeting and Conference will bring the Association's annual activities to a close. The event will be held at the Ward Agricultural Center in Lebanon, Tennessee. The meeting will be held on December 4. Traditionally, the meeting has been held the first Saturday in December. The business of the Association will be conducted along with a half-day educational program for both producers and youth. Awards and recognition of those who have made a contribution to the state's sheep industry and have been supportive of the Tennessee Sheep Producer's Association will be presented. ♦



www.americasheartland.org

Tennessee 4-Hers perform 100 hours of volunteer service

4-H Congress included service projects for Haiti, Vanderbilt Children's Hospital

Tennessee 4-Hers pledge "their hands to larger service." Boy, do they really mean it. And then some. Literally hundreds of hours worth.

2010 is the 100th year of Tennessee 4-H, and to mark the Centennial 4-Hers will perform 100 hours of volunteer service in towns and counties statewide. That includes planting trees, visiting the elderly in assisted living facilities, and collecting for food banks and clothing centers. It also involves work in a worldwide humanitarian effort.

4-H leaders say service comes second nature to many youth involved in the program, and is a way to stay connected to the needs of others. "Last year 4-Hers statewide performed more than 100,000 hours of service at an estimated value of 1.8 million dollars to the state's economy," says Steve Sutton, director of Tennessee 4-H Youth Development. "Service opportunities are an important component of the 4-H program."

"In 4-H, we want to instill in our young people a sense of civic engagement," says Justin Crowe of Tennessee 4-H Youth Development. "We want to give them an opportunity to give back to their communities - communities that have been awfully good to them."

Jaelyn Torrento is a senior at Greenbrier High School in Robertson County, and has been involved with a number of service projects in her years with 4-H. "For me, it's really taught me to appreciate the people of my community, and to appreciate all I have in life," she says.

One of the projects Jaelyn and Robertson County 4-Hers will work on this Centennial is to collect for victims of the earthquake in Haiti. In fact, they've already done quite a bit of work here. The Robertson County 4-H Goat Club recently collected items and money at a table stationed at the J.R. Food Mart in Springfield. The group sorted and boxed all donations over a two-week period, and the items were then shipped as part of the "Hope 4 Haiti" campaign.

"They collected more than \$400 in cash and they also collected almost \$1,500 in goods - products that children could use like clothing, baby formula, diapers, and all kinds of things that could be sent to Haiti," says Kathy Finley, 4-H Agent in Robertson County.

4-Hers who recently attended 4-H Congress in Nashville were urged to collect money for Haiti - with each county having a goal of raising at least \$100.

4-Hers at Congress also collected items for Vanderbilt Children's Hospital to benefit families requiring an overnight stay at the facility. Many families arrive in such a rush that they do not bring basic toiletries. Tennessee 4-Hers brought soap, shampoo, toothpaste, lip balm and other items to Congress. As part of the Centennial, each county has a goal of

collecting 100 items.

This was the 63rd year for 4-H Congress. Nearly 400 9th and 10th graders from across the state converged on the state capitol in Nashville March 28 - 31. They had the opportunity to debate and vote on youth-oriented bills in the Senate and House chambers, to compete in contests such as public speaking and essay writing, and to tour the area and learn more about our government.

As part of the Centennial, the

state 4-H office is looking to re-connect with past 4-Hers. If your heart bleeds green and you are a former 4-Her, please call 865-974-7141 and let us know your postal and email addresses and phone number. You can also email jcrowe3@utk.edu

4-H is the youth development program for UT Extension. 4-H teaches leadership, citizenship and life skills to more than 300,000 youth in grades 4-12. 4-H also has more than 18,000 adult volunteers statewide.

UT Extension operates in each of Tennessee's 95 counties as the off-campus division of the UT Institute of Agriculture. An educational and outreach organization funded by federal, state and local governments, UT Extension, in cooperation with Tennessee State University, brings research-based information about agriculture, family and consumer sciences, and resource development to the people of Tennessee where they live and work. ♦



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FOR SALE: Limousin bulls and heifers - black, red, polled and homozygous black. Riverside Valley Farm, Hohenwald, TN, 931-796-1638; 931-628-6730

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NEXT ISSUE IS JULY. AD DEADLINE IS JUNE 10.

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Price, phone number, e-mail address and website count as one word each.
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Tennessee Livestock Producers

AUCTION MARKET SERVICES		
Tennessee Livestock Producers Hwy. 64E, Fayetteville Sale Every Tuesday Bobby Eslick, Manager 931-433-5256/931-433-4962	Somerville Livestock Market Hwy. 59, Somerville Sale Every Tuesday Don Terry, Manager 901-465-9679/731-695-0353	Columbia Livestock Center 1231 Industrial Park Rd. Cattle Sale Every Thurs. Sheep/Goat 2nd & 4th. Fri. Frank Poling, Manager 931-223-8323/931-212-9962
VIDEO CATTLE SALES		
<i>Management provided for Lower Middle Tennessee Cattle Assoc.</i>		
Consignment information contact: Darrell Ailshie 931-388-7872 Frank Poling 931-212-9962		2010 Sale Dates - 9 AM Central Jan. 15, March 5, April 9, May 7, June 4 Aug. 6, Sept. 3, Oct. 1, Nov. 5, Dec. 3
SHEEP & GOAT SALES <u>COLUMBIA - Every 2nd & 4th Friday</u> May 14, 28; June 11, 25; July 9, 23 Aug. 13, 27; Sept. 10, 24; Oct. 8, 22	SPECIAL SALES Graded Sales every Tuesday in Fayetteville Weaned Sale, Columbia - 1st & 3rd Thursdays Tennessee Beef Alliance, Columbia & Cookeville Aug. 3, Sept. 28, Nov. 30 Premier Heifer Sale, Columbia - Oct. 30 SEE WEBSITE FOR CURRENT LIST	
HORSE SALES <u>SOMERVILLE</u> Every 2nd Friday		
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Darrell Ailshie, General Manager P.O. Box 313 • Columbia, TN 38402 • 931-388-7872 tennesseelivestockproducers.com		

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Tomato Plants - 60 varieties including Heirlooms. Also pepper and vegetable plants, herbs, flowers and seed. Sweetlips Greenhouses, 3705 Sweetlips Rd, Henderson, TN 38340. 731-989-7046 sweetlipsgreenhouse.com

LAWN & GARDEN

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FORESTRY

Panther Creek Forestry: Forestry, Timber, Wildlife Managers. Middle and East TN. 931-474-6203; www.panthercreekforestry.net 05-25

EQUIPMENT

270 Gal Diesel Tank 6' Stand Hose Filter, Nozzle filled 2 times \$350.00 423-332-6521

Bermuda King Fairway Planter Plants, Bermuda Sprigs or cuttings \$9,250 OBO 931-205-7125; dnstiles@gmail.com

For Sale: 1981 96J D5 Cat Dozer. Approximately 800 hours on motor, rebuilt transmission. Call, 931-589-5828; 931-994-2067

Lagoon Pump, Feed Bins 4 3/4 Ton, 2 3/4 Ton, L.B. White Propane Heater. 931-363-6684

TRACTORS & IMPLEMENTS

4000 Ford Diesel Tractor, good condition \$4,500.00 Walton Officer, 504 Agee Street, Monterey, TN 38574. 931-544-0225

AC Two Row Silage Cutter. Howard Dowdy, 535 Dowdy Road Somerville, TN 38068 901-692-6297

For Sale 1980 4240 John Deere, good condition, 3300 original hrs., new interior, front weights, one owner, shed kept \$23,000.00 865-256-7716

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Krone 260 Hay Bailer, little use SN 200263, Wrap, no string \$6,500.00 Jimmy Reeves, Tipton County, 901-476-9617; home phone, 901-301-3225

Wanted: Cultivators, full set for 140 IH. Must be good, 615-529-2444

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For Sale: Cattle Trailer, Goose Neck brand, Metal top, 20 x 6'8", red, 2001 model, only hauled 5 loads, like new, \$6300. 615-529-2444

OTHER EQUIPMENT

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1889 All Iron 2 Horse Buck Board Wagon. Phone 865-475-7835

For Sale: 1981-96J D-5 Cat Dozer, 931-589-5175

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50 acres, home basement Rancher barn, work shop, 1 acre pond stocked with fish. 30x12 inground pool, 3 baths, double garage in basement. 865-497-2926; cell 599-8191

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Want to lease property in Lincoln or Giles for 2010 deer season. 423-413-8430

REAL ESTATE

House for Rent in Monterey. Two bedrooms, one bath, central heat & air, washer & dryer hook up, 10'x20' out building, no pets \$400.00 per month, \$400.00 deposit. Walton Officer 504 Agee Street, Monterey, TN 38574 931-544-0225

Hunting Property 35.9 acres, Perry County. Older Camper with two rooms added located on property, \$1200.00 ac. 865-986-5226

VACATION RENTALS

Beautiful Smoky Mountain log cabins - near Gatlinburg, Pigeon Forge. Jacuzzi, hot-tubs, porches and rockers, on trout stream, stone fireplaces, cable TV, fully furnished, hiking, \$85 nightly and up. www.moorecabins.com; 423-487-5615 05-12

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HUNTING LEASES

Fall Creek Falls Hunting Clubs, Cane Creek Area. TN Leases available from 100 to 1,000 Acres. 931-474-6203; www.panthercreekforestry.net 05-26

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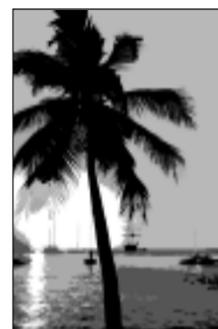
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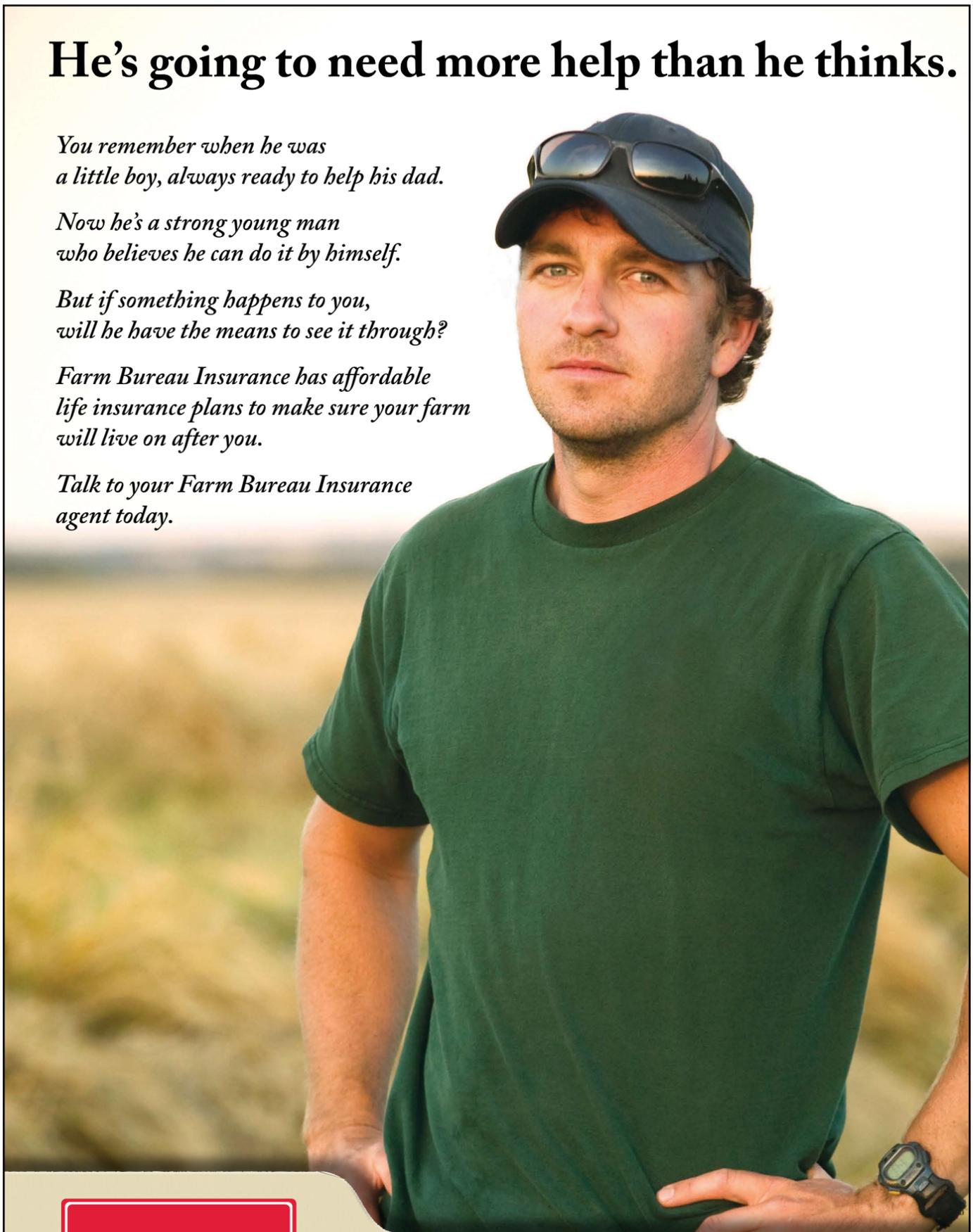
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63rd Annual 4-H Congress



The new 4-H governor and speakers - The newly elected 2011 Tennessee 4-H Congress officers are from left: Rachael Walters, Maury County, Speaker of the Senate; Ben Riley, McMinn County, Governor; and Polly Gregory, Robertson County, Speaker of the House.



State History Bowl winners - From left: Blake Roller of Sullivan County, Mason Van Horn of Roane County, and Janet Cluck, Dickson County Extension director (donor).

**I pledge my HEAD to clearer thinking
my HEART to greater loyalty, my HANDS to larger service and
my HEALTH to better living for my club, my community,
my country and my world.**



4-H public speaking winners - From left: Kristy Chastine, Tennessee Farm Bureau (donor representative); Tykey Truett (donor); Jerry Truett (donor); Breanna England of Wilson County, 9th grade winner; Meribeth Holt of Gibson County, 10th grade winner; Laura-Kate Gonyea of Williamson County, 11th grade winner; Hannah Wright of Rhea, 12th grade winner; Lily Turaski (donor); Michele Atkins, Henry County UT Extension (donor representative); and DeeDee Turaski (donor).



Leadership winners - From left: Ethan Davenport of Sumner County (Level I); Kristy Chastine, Tennessee Farm Bureau Associate Director of Special Programs, representing the donors; and Kristal Henderson of Lauderdale County (Level II).



4-H citizenship winners - From left: Hannah Lee of Rutherford County (Level II); Kristy Chastine, Tennessee Farm Bureau Associate Director of Special Programs, representing the donors; and Lysa Walterhouse of Shelby County (Level I).



4-H top writer - Sarah Cody of Clay County wrote the state-winning essay. Presenting Sarah with her award is Martha Jo Tolley representing the donors, the Former University of Tennessee Institute of Agriculture Workers Association and Jenny Yeary.