

Over the Back Fence

Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension Newsletter

Summertime!

What a busy time it has been within all aspects of life! Extension has been busy with Grow It, Cook It sessions, PARP, and assisting with 4-H livestock programs. In addition to Extension, April was a very special month for myself as I just got married on April 13th! I will still have my same email which is camm@purdue.edu. I am beyond excited for this next chapter in my life. May 15th also marks my one year anniversary with Purdue Extension. As I reflect back on this past year, I am grateful for the connections made, new people met, knowledge gained, and participants at programs. The journey so far has been very impactful and I am excited to see what the next year brings. As always, please reach out to me with any questions or program ideas. Thank you to everyone for all the hard work you put in and late-night hours to keep Harrison County Agriculture and Natural Resources thriving!

Amiel Camm-Wilson





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Ag Spotlight

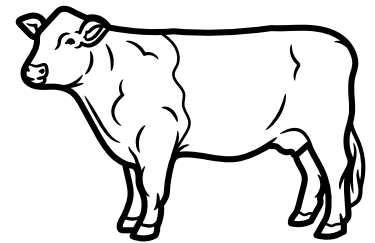
This is a new section which features an interview of community members involved in Agriculture or Natural Resources fields!

Name: Leslee Simpson

Hometown: Elizabeth, IN

Education: Associates Degree in Accounting

Occupation: Cattle Farmer, Grain Farmer, Trucking Company, and Fabrication shop where I work in the office, help work cattle, and run a grain cart.



What interested you Agriculture?

I spent a lot of time when I was young at my grandparents house where they had a small farm with a handful of cows, horses, and chickens and loved it. I met my husband, Chad Simpson freshman year of high school and was really hooked on agriculture after meeting him.



What advice do you have for someone wanting a career in Agriculture?

It is a lot of hard work, but just be patient and if you love what you do, it is so worth it.



MEET OUR NEW COUNTY EXTENSION DIRECTOR!

Introducing our Health and Human Sciences & Community Development (HHS/CD) Educator, Tara Beckman, now our new County Extension Director (CED)!

For the last two years, Tara has served in the HHS/CD Educator role within the office, where she has formed and strengthened county partnerships, delivered educational programming and processes that strive to address county needs, and has worked diligently to uphold Purdue Extension's mission in Harrison County. She will continue to work in these capacities, in addition to the CED role.

Tara looks forward to talking with and working alongside county leaders and community members in this new capacity, while providing on-going support toward Extension's program areas and the impactful work each are doing in Harrison County.



The County Extension Director (CED) is the primary representative of Purdue University within an Indiana county. The CED provides overall leadership and guidance for all programming efforts in order to accomplish the Purdue Extension mission.

MEET OUR NEW 4-H & YOUTH DEVELOPMENT EDUCATOR

Anna Denny, a native of Harrison County, is delighted to work in her hometown. With a 10-year background in 4-H, she grew up showing horses and rabbits. Anna holds a Bachelor's degree in Agriculture from Murray State University. Her journey with Extension commenced in 2015 with a summer internship in Harrison County. Following her graduation, she served as an Extension Program Assistant for four years before transitioning to an Extension Agent role at the University of Kentucky in Breckinridge County.

Anna operates and owns a Katahdin hair sheep farm in Harrison County. In her free time, she loves hiking with her dog, Gus, exploring the outdoors, and being a fun-loving aunt to her niece and nephew.

She is thrilled to engage with her local community and develop the 4-H program to benefit the youth, mirroring how the program shaped her into the professional she is today.



FEATURED ANR EVENT

Register Now!

812-738-4236



Rooted in Ag

Chicken Teriyaki

July 23rd at 6:00pm

Join ANR Educator, Ariel Camm, at the Rooted In Ag: Chicken Teriyaki class on July 23rd at 6:00pm at the Extension Office. Learn how agriculture plays a key part in the chicken teriyaki we enjoy. You even get to make and take home your own teriyaki to enjoy afterwards! Class size is limited, so call the Extension Office at 812-738-4236 or stop by!



Extension - Agriculture
and Natural Resources

Purdue University is an Equal Opportunity Equal Access Institution

HARRISON COUNTY EXTENSION ANR EVENTS

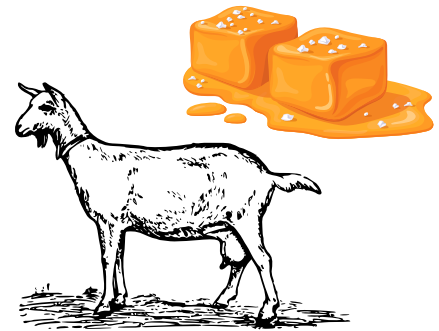
Field Day at Cameron Churchill's Farm

Save the date for Field Day at Cameron Churchill's Farm on Saturday, August 24th from 10:00am-2:00pm. More details will be announced in the future!



The Art of Crafting Caramel

Join Harrison County ANR Educator, Ariel Camm, and Clark County ANR Educator and owner of Summer Solstice Farms, Heidi Potter, to learn the art of crafting caramel from goat milk! Participants will also learn about dairy goat management. This workshop will be held at the Harrison County Office on June 11th starting at 5:30pm. Limited seating available, so RSVP as soon as possible!



Harrison County 4-H and Agriculture Fair

The Harrison County 4-H and Agriculture Fair is coming up soon! It's a big year this year with a new ride company and a new grandstand! 2024 Harrison County Fair parade will be on June 23rd.

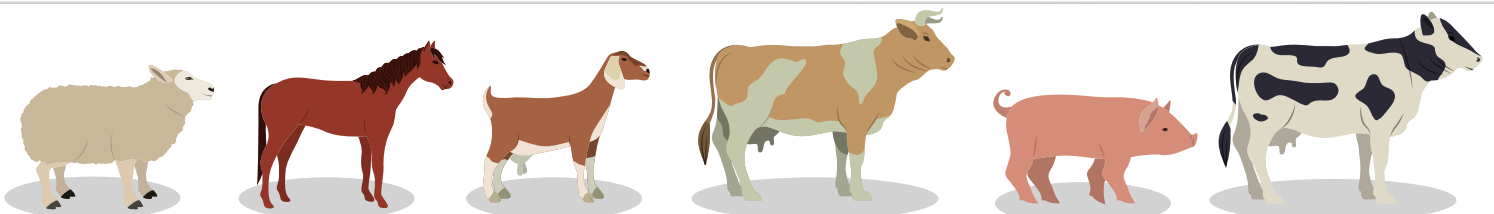
4-H Fair Dates: June 21st-29th

Ag Fair Dates: June 23rd-29th



4-H LIVESTOCK SHOWS & EVENTS

Poultry	Saturday, June 22, 2024	9:00 AM (Meat Pen Show) 11:00 AM (All Other)
Meat Goat	Saturday, June 22, 2024	4:00 PM
Dairy Female	Sunday, June 23, 2024	2:00 PM
Rabbit	Monday, June 24, 2024	9:00 AM
Dairy Beef	Monday, June 24, 2024	NOON
Beef	Monday, June 24, 2024	5:00 PM
Sheep	Tuesday, June 25, 2024	10:00 AM
Swine	Tuesday, June 25, 2024	5:00 PM
Dairy Goat	Wednesday, June 26, 2024	NOON
Large Master Showman	Wednesday, June 26, 2024	5:00 PM
Small Animal Master Showman	Thursday, June 27 th , 2024	10:00 AM
Carcass	Saturday, June 22, 2024	10:00 AM
Chuck Wagon	Thursday, June 27, 2024	5:00 PM
Livestock Auction	Thursday, June 27, 2024	6:00 PM



OTHER ANR EVENTS

Farmer's Markets



Harrison County Farmer's Market season began on April 20th and will occur every Saturday from 8:00am-12:00pm at New Hope Wesleyan Church parking lot. Wednesday evenings starting in June.

1390 Old State Highway 135 NW
Corydon, IN 47112



The Corydon Farmer's Market season begins May 4th and will occur every Friday from 4:00-7:00pm at:

124 South Mulberry St. Corydon, IN 47112

Contact (930) 237-0862 for more information

Master Gardener Pop-Up Plant Sale

The Harrison County Master Gardeners are having a Pop-up Plant Sale at the Harrison County Extension Office 247 Atwood St, Corydon on Saturday, May 4, 2024 from 9:00am-Noon.

There will be a variety of herbs, vegetables, flowers, and houseplants available. All plants have been grown by the Master Gardeners in their Greenhouse at the Extension office. The plants are high quality stock and the prices are outstanding! This event is open to the public, cash and cards accepted.



Purdue Fruit and Vegetable Field Day

Purdue Fruit and Vegetable Field Day

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

THURSDAY, JULY 18, 2024

Purdue Meigs Ag Center
9101 S 100 E, Lafayette, IN 47909

 PURDUE UNIVERSITY Extension



Please join us again this year for the Purdue Fruit & Vegetable Field Day, presented on July 18, 2024, at the Purdue Meigs Ag Center, 9101 S 100 E, Lafayette, IN 47909. Registration starts at 8 a.m., and educational tracks are scheduled between 9 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Lunch is included in registration.

The 2023 field day was a hit. It featured Purdue Extension's specialty crop research to 90 attendees, who left with positive feedback. Excited for 2024, the event promises interactive demonstrations on topics like weed and insect management, pollinators, soil health, apple orchard systems, bird control in vineyards, and more. As a bonus, all attendees will receive a free Vegetable Crops Hotline newsletter subscription! For more information about the field day, visit the Purdue Fruit and Vegetable Field Day web page.

Purdue Small Farm Education Field Day

PURDUE SMALL FARM EDUCATION FIELD DAY

JULY 25, 2024

at the Purdue Student Farm
<https://www.purdue.edu/hla/sites/studentfarm/events/>

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN

PRESENTED BY:
 PURDUE UNIVERSITY Horticulture and Landscape Architecture



Please join us for the Purdue Small Farm Education Field Day on July 25, 2024, at the Purdue Student Farm, 1491 Cherry Lane, West Lafayette, IN 47906. Registration starts at 8 a.m., and the educational tours will be from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. A food truck will be on site for lunch purchases.

The 2023 Purdue Small Farm Education Field Day was a huge success! This year's field day will again offer demonstration stations where you can interact with specialists and learn about a variety of topics: food safety updates, packhouse tours, weed and insect management, crop production, and more. As a bonus, all attendees will receive a FREE Vegetable Crops Hotline newsletter subscription and a FREE ice-cold treat from the Kona Ice truck, compliments of HLA and Purdue Extension.

ANR RECAP



Grow It, Cook It: Onions

On March 12th, eleven people participated in the Grow It, Cook It session featuring Onions!

This fun workshop helped everyone gather a better understanding of growing and cooking onions. HHS Educator, Tara Beckman, gave tips on cooking onions, nutrition they provide along with other recipe ingredients, health benefits, and how to select and store them. She prepared a scallion flatbread, healthy french onion dip, and had pickled red onions to sample.

ANR Educator, Ariel Camm, presented information about varieties of onions, diseases, and pests. She also spoke about how to plant onions by leading an activity that had participants plant their own onion sets. They could then take those onions home and have onion sets to grow in their gardens.

Overall, participants grew their understanding in producing and consuming onions!



Grow It Cook It: Brussel Sprouts

On April 9th, seven participants came out for the Grow It, Cook It session featuring Brussels Sprouts!

This fun workshop helped everyone gather a better understanding of growing and cooking Brussels sprouts.

HHS Educator, Tara Beckman, gave tips on cooking Brussels, nutrition they provide along with other recipe ingredients, health benefits, and how to select and store them. She prepared a Brussels sprout, cranberry, and couscous salad and roasted Brussels to sample.

ANR Educator, Ariel Camm, presented information about Brussels sprouts, diseases, and pests. She also spoke about how to plant Brussels sprouts by leading an activity that had participants plant their own Brussels sprout seeds-- thanks to the generous seed donation by Tractor Supply Company. Participants could then take those Brussels sprouts starters home and grow in their gardens.

Overall, participants grew their understanding in producing and consuming Brussels sprouts!

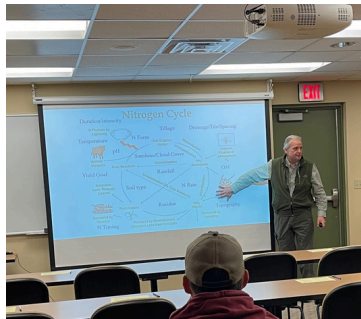


ANR RECAP



Carcass Workshop

Ten youth participated in the 4-H Carcass Project Workshop on March 9th. ANR Educator, Ariel Camm led a presentation discussing what carcass is, the carcass scanning procedure, wholesale vs. retail, USDA meat cuts, and marbling. She then had a fun, educational, and interactive activity identifying meat cuts. 4-H volunteer, Kyle Nix, discussed beef and pork cut examples with real meat to talk about marbling, back fat, the color of meat, and how to score meat cuts. As Kyle was quizzing them on what meat cuts were from what animal, they were thrown off when they were presented deer as a meat! Everyone was very engaged and had a fun time learning more about what to look for in their market animals' carcass scans at the fair.



Pesticide Applicator Program

On March 20th at Purdue Extension Harrison County, 31 participants continued their education credits towards their PARP license. Speaker, Glenn Longabaugh discussed nitrogen and phosphorus in the soil, Bill Johnson covered weed identification and management, and Richard Beckort spoke about worker protection and certification requirements. All participants learned a lot of useful information in this session to take back to their land and implement. Thank you to the Indiana Corn and Soybean Alliance for sponsoring this program!



Quality Livestock Care

A total of 23 4-H youth attended the Indiana Quality Livestock Care Training on March 26th at the Extension Office taught by ANR Educator, Ariel Camm. Everyone learned various topics that will help them to properly take care of their livestock. They learned the relationship between livestock producers in 4-H and Agriculture, proper show ring ethics, relationships between veterinarians, how to maintain the wellbeing of animals, and what to look for when detecting diseases.



ANR RECAP



Hoosier Homestead Awards

Congratulations to a Harrison County Indiana farm that received the Bicentennial Award for 200 years of continuous ownership: the Dorton family from Harrison County

What's a Hoosier Homestead award?

In honor of Indiana's rich agricultural heritage, the Hoosier Homestead Award Program recognizes families with farms that have been owned by the same family for 100 years or more. The program was instituted in 1976 and recognizes the contributions these family farms have made to the economic, cultural and social advancements of Indiana. In the past 45 years, more than 5,800 farms have received the honor. Indiana family farms may qualify for the following: Centennial Award - 100 years of ownership Sesquicentennial Award - 150 years of ownership Bicentennial Award - 200 years of ownership



Master Gardeners Spring Workshop

The Harrison County Master Gardeners 2024 Spring Workshop was a huge success this year! Over 60 participants came out to the Extension Office to start the day with a homemade breakfast and had the opportunity to learn from several engaging guest speakers. The first session was led by Master Gardeners, Kim Tate and Ron Byerley. Participants learned about propagating plants from seed and cuttings and did a hands-on planting demonstration allowing each guest to plant a tomato start to take home. Charlie Logsdon, Wildlife Biologist at Roundstone Native Seed, shared information about getting started with native plantings on a home garden scale or thousands of acres and discussed many of the services they offer to ensure quality product, informed decision-making, and satisfied clients. Soil Health Specialist, Megan Ayers, captivated the audience with her dynamic presentation on the importance of soil health and the knowledge and services offered by her team. If participants didn't know Indiana's Four Soil Health Principles when she started, they knew them by the end! The workshop ended with an interactive Q&A session and Plant Sale at the Master Gardeners' greenhouse. Thank you to all of the participants, volunteers, and guest presenters who make this annual event a wonderful opportunity in Harrison County.

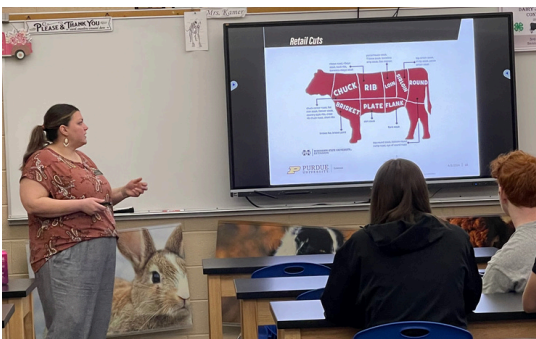


Beef: Farm to Table

ANR Educator, Ariel Camm, and HHS Educator, Tara Beckman, had the opportunity to visit almost 70 students at North Harrison High School and Corydon Central High School to discuss beef: how it relates to agriculture and consumer-end uses.

Ariel Camm spoke to students about Expected Progeny Differences, Wholesale and Retail cuts, Dressing Percentages, and USDA Grades in beef cattle. This helped to tie in how important selecting genetics are in beef cattle and what desired traits producers are looking for.

Tara Beckman discussed nutritional info related to beef. Together, she and the students identified safe food handling practices, and Tara demonstrated those during a steak preparation. Finally, students developed an understanding of resources as it relates to various cuts of meat and ideal food preparation methods. Special thanks to North Harrison High School and Corydon High School for inviting us and providing the cuts of steak in order for students to see, smell, and sample what they were learning.



ANR RESOURCES

Soil Sample Testing

SUBMITTING TO A&L LABS:

Your local Extension Office can submit soil samples for you to A&L Labs. Typical turn around for results is 10-14 days.

BASIC ANALYSIS:

Measures the organic matter, available phosphorus, exchangeable Potassium, Magnesium, Calcium, Soil pH, Cation Exchange Capacity, Percent Base Saturation of Cation Elements.

TESTING YOUR SOIL:

In a soil test, elements are chemically removed from the soil and measured for their available content to the plant. The quantity of the nutrients in the sample determines the amount of fertilizer that is recommended. Soil tests also measure soil PH, humic matter and exchangeable acidity. Soil tests can be taken at any time, the important thing to remember is to take the sample at the same time every year!. It is however, recommended to take it in the fall when application of fertilizers is possible.

HOW TO TAKE THE SAMPLE:

First, using a sample probe, (available for loan at our office) spade, trowel or long knife, dig 6-8 inches deep for gardens, shrubs or trees and 3-4 inches for turf. Sample different areas of the turf, garden or landscape separately. Choose 8-10 locations to extract soil from (more if its a large area). Discard any surface residue, thatch, or stone. Second, combine the samples in a bucket and mix well. Transfer 1-2 cups of the mixed sample to our provided bag or a plastic bag. Label the bag with location, the address, and your contact information. Finally, drop your soil sample at the Extension Office with your payment (we can only accept cash or check), we'll take care of the rest. We can email your results, call you for pickup, or mail them. Let us know your preferred method.

2024 Soil Sample Pricing

*pricing subject to change

1 Sample - \$19.00	6 Samples - \$84.00
2 Samples - \$29.00	7 Samples - \$90.00
3 Samples - \$45.00	8 Samples - \$100.00
4 Samples - \$54.50	9 Samples - \$110.00
5 Samples - \$64.00	10 Samples - \$120.00

HELPFUL HINTS REGARDING SOIL TESTING:

- Most labs do not include a nitrogen test because soils do not retain nitrogen, so it must be replenished every year. Some gardening books advise a general lime application, yet most Indiana gardens have a soil pH that is already near neutral, if not slightly alkaline. So, applying lime will not help (and may hurt) nutrient availability in these soils.
- You should test your soil every three to five years. However, if you have specific plants with particular fertility and soil pH requirements, test more often.
- Be sure to collect your soil sample and test it well before you plant, so you have time to treat the soil. You can sample soil any time the soil is suitable for spading or rototilling, but late summer or early fall give enough lead time to plan ahead. However, if a situation develops that suggests soil fertility may be the problem, then you should collect samples immediately. Taking soil samples from the "normal" and "abnormal" plant growth areas is helpful for comparison.

Seed Drill Rental

Looking to rent a seed drill for food and pollinator plots or native grasses, cool season grasses, and small grains?

Contact the Harrison County SWCD, Soil and Water Conservation District Office at 812-738-8121 Extension 3 and ask for Virginia or Marla.



Monthly Extension Challenge Kits

Our June Challenge Kit will be featuring a county fair themed scavenger hunt! Explore the many fun and educational things in agriculture featured at our county fair! Keep a look out for announcements on our Facebook and website regarding when kits are available at the Extension Office.

WHAT: What is an Extension Challenge Kit? Our monthly challenge kits provide instructions and most materials to do a DIY educational project or two on your own. The kits are geared towards ALL Harrison County community members, and focus on Extension education areas such as Agriculture and Natural Resources, Health and Human Sciences, and/or 4-H Youth Development. Our kits are FREE, but come in limited quantities so be sure to check in with us at the first of each month.

WHEN: We release our challenge kits at the beginning of each month in the Extension Office. You can come in Monday-Friday 8:00am-4:30pm to pick yours up in person. Check our Facebook for information at the first of each month regarding challenge details, and feel free to call the office to see if kits are still available (limited quantities).



Indiana Pesticide Applicator Core Training Manual

Are you or someone in your family or business needing to get licensed as a pesticide applicator? This manual makes a great study guide and contains all of the information to help pass the CORE pesticide applicator exam.

Cost of the manual is \$45.

Topics include:

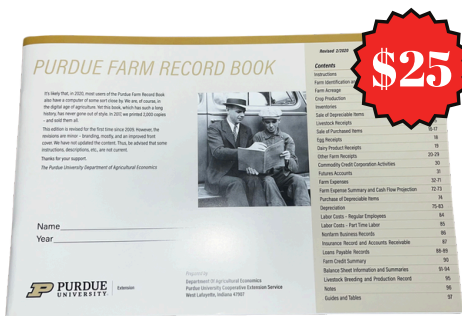
Applicator certification, pest management, handling pesticides, transporting pesticides, pesticides in correlation to the environment, pesticide labels, and calibration and maintenance.

Stop by the Harrison County Extension Office Monday-Friday from 8:00am-4:30pm to grab yours!



Farm Record Book

The Farm Record Book is a 100-page book enabling farmers to keep accurate and effective farm records.



- Farm Identification and Income Tax Notes
- Farm Acreage
- Crop Production
- Inventories
- Sale of Depreciable Items
- Livestock Receipts
- Sale of Purchased Items
- Egg Receipts
- Dairy Product Receipts
- Other Farm Receipts
- Commodity Credit Corporation Activities
- Future Accounts
- Farm Expenses
- Farm Expense Summary and Cash Flow Projection
- Purchase of Depreciable Items
- Depreciation
- Labor Costs- Regular Employees
- Labor Costs- Part Time Labor
- Nonfarm Business Records
- Insurance Record and Accounts Receivable
- Loans Payable Records
- Farm Credit Summary
- Balance Sheet Information and Summaries
- Livestock Breeding and Production Record
- Notes
- Guides and Tables

Pick Up at the Extension Office:
247 Atwood St. Corydon, IN 47112

Call with any questions:
812-738-4236

Harrison County Master Gardeners 2024 Meetings



We meet on the Third Thursday of every month at 6:30pm at the Harrison County Extension Office.

Visit the Purdue Extension Harrison County ANR page for more information about Master Gardeners or contact Ken Tingler at ktingler@yahoo.com or 812-734-0373

<https://extension.purdue.edu/county/harrison/ANRHomePage.html>

- May 16th
- June 20th
- July 18th
- August 15th
- September 19th
- October 17th
- November 21st
- December 19th

Harrison County Cattlemen's Association

We meet on the First Wednesday of every other month at 7:30pm at the Extension Office (even numbered months).

Visit the Purdue Extension Harrison County ANR page for more information about the Harrison County Cattlemen's Association.

<https://extension.purdue.edu/county/harrison/ANRHomePage.html>

- June 5th
- August 7th
- October 2nd
- December 4th



Bull Soundness Exams

The Harrison Co. Cattlemen's Association is offering to cover the cost of 1 bull soundness exam for the year 2024.

- CURRENT members ONLY (2024 dues are paid)
- **1**BSE per current member for the 2024 year
- Utilize ANY vet, anytime during 2024
- Vaccines, farm visit, any additional costs NOT included
- Call or text 502-554-5124 for information on reimbursement. Must provide proof of payment/services.



AG EDUCATION & INFORMATION

INDIANA VEGETABLE PLANTING CALENDAR

PURDUE EXTENSION CONSUMER HORTICULTURE | MICHAEL N. DANA AND B. ROSIE LERNER

Earliest Dates and Ranges of Dates for Planting a Spring Crop

Crop	Area A
Asparagus (1)	Mar 10-Apr 10
Bean, Lima	Apr 1-June 30
Bean, Snap	Apr 10-June 30
Beet	Mar 10-June 1
Broccoli, sprouting(1)	Mar 15-Apr 15
Brussels sprout (1)	Mar 15-Apr 15
Cabbage (1)	Mar 1-Apr 1
Cabbage, Chinese	(2)
Carrot	Mar 10-Apr 20
Cauliflower	Mar 1-Mar 20
Celery and celeriac	Apr 1-Apr 20
Chard	Mar 15-June 15
Chervil and chives	Mar 1-Apr 1
Chicory, witloof	June 10-July 1
Collard (1)	Mar 1-June 1
Cornsalad	Feb 1-Apr 1
Corn, sweet	Apr 10-June 1
Cress, upland	Mar 10-Apr 15
Cucumber	Apr 20-June 1
Eggplant (1)	May 1-June 1
Endive	Mar 15-Apr 15
Fennel, Florence	Mar 15-Apr 15
Garlic	Feb 20-Mar 20
Horseradish (1)	Mar 10-Apr 10
Kale	Mar 10-Apr 1
Kohlrabi	Mar 10-Apr 10
Leek	Mar 1-Apr 1
Lettuce, head (1)	Mar 10-Apr 1
Lettuce, leaf	Mar 15-May 15
Muskmelon	Apr 20-June 1
Mustard	Mar 10-Apr 20
Okra	Apr 20-June 15
Onion (1)	Mar 1-Apr 1
Onion, seed	Mar 1-Apr 1
Onion, sets	Mar 1-Apr 1
Parsley	Mar 10-Apr 10
Parsnip	Mar 10-Apr 10
Peanut	Apr 25-May 15
Pea, garden	Feb. 20-Mar 20
Pea, black-eye	May 1-July 1
Pepper (1)	May 1-June 1
Potato	Mar 10-Apr 1
Pumpkin	Apr 20-June 1
Radish	Mar 1-May 1
Rhubarb (1)	Mar 1-Apr 1
Rutabaga	(3)
Salsify	Mar 10-Apr 15
Shallot	Mar 1-Apr 1
Sorrel	Mar 1-Apr 15
Soybean	May 1-June 30
Spinach	Feb 15-Apr 1
Spinach, New Zealand	Apr 20-June 1
Squash, summer and winter	Apr 20-June 1
Sweet potato	May 1-June 1
Tomato	Apr 20-June 1
Turnip	Mar 1-Apr 1
Watermelon	Apr 20-June 1

*The areas in this table come from Figure 1.

(1) Plants (transplant instead of direct seeding on indicated dates)

(2) Generally fall-planted

(3) Substitute turnips in Area A and B

— No information available

Source: *Growing Vegetables in the Home Garden*, USDA Bulletin 202.

Latest Dates and Ranges of Dates for Planting a Fall Crop

Crop	Area H
Asparagus (1)	Nov 15-Jan 1
Bean, Lima	July 1-Aug 1
Bean, snap	July 1-Aug 15
Beet	Aug 1-Sept 1
Broccoli, sprouting	July 1-Aug 1
Brussels sprout	July 1-Aug 15
Cabbage (1)	Aug 1-Sept 1
Cabbage, Chinese	Aug 1-Sept 15
Carrot	July 1-Aug 15
Cauliflower (1)	July 15-Aug 15
Celery (1) and celeriac	June 15-Aug 15
Chard	June 1-Sept 10
Chervil and chives	(2)
Chicory, witloof	July 1-Aug 10
Collard (1)	Aug 1-Sept 15
Cornsalad	Sept 15-Nov 1
Corn, sweet	June 1-Aug 1
Cress, upland	Sept 15-Nov 1
Cucumber	June 1-Aug 1
Eggplant (1)	June 1-July 1
Endive	July 15-Aug 15
Fennel, Florence	Jul 1-Aug 1
Garlic	(2)
Horseradish (1)	(2)
Kale	July 15-Sept 1
Kohlrabi	Aug 1-Sept 1
Leek	(2)
Lettuce, head (1)	Aug 1-Sept 15
Lettuce, leaf	Aug 15-Oct 1
Muskmelon	July 1-July 15
Mustard	Aug 15-Oct 15
Okra	June 1-Aug 10
Onion (1)	—
Onion, seed	—
Onion, sets	—
Parsley	Aug 1-Sept 15
Parsnip	(2)
Pea, garden	Aug 1-Sept 15
Pea, black-eye	June 1-Aug 1
Pepper (1)	June 1-July 20
Potato	July 20-Aug 10
Pumpkin	July 1-July 15
Radish	Aug 15-Oct 15
Rhubarb (1)	Nov 1-Dec 1
Rutabaga	July 15-Aug 1
Salsify	June 1-July 10
Shallot	(2)
Sorrel	Aug 1-Sept 15
Soybean	June 1-July 15
Spinach	Sept 1-Oct 1
Spinach, New Zealand	June 1-Aug 1
Squash, summer	June 1-Aug 1
Squash, winter	June 10-July 10
Sweet potato	June 1-June 15
Tomato	June 1-July 1
Turnip	Aug 1-Sept 15
Watermelon	July 1-July 15

*The areas in this table come from Figure 2.

(1) Plants (transplant instead of direct seeding on indicated dates)

(2) Generally spring-planted

— No information available

Source: *Growing Vegetables in the Home Garden*, USDA Bulletin 202.

DAIRY CATTLE IN KANSAS & TEXAS TEST POSITIVE FOR AVIAN FLU; MILK SUPPLY REMAINS SAFE

PUBLISHED ON MARCH 25TH, 2024 | HOOSIER AG TODAY BY ERIC PFEIFFER

USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS) says that officials from the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), as well as state veterinary and public health officials, are investigating an illness among primarily older dairy cows in Texas, Kansas, and New Mexico that is causing decreased lactation, low appetite, and other symptoms.

As of Monday, March 25, unpasteurized, clinical samples of milk from sick cattle collected from two dairy farms in Kansas and one in Texas, as well as an oropharyngeal swab from another dairy in Texas, have tested positive for

highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI). Additional testing was initiated on Friday, March 22, and over the weekend because farms have also reported finding deceased wild birds on their properties. Based on findings from Texas, the detections appear to have been introduced by wild birds.

Initial testing by the National Veterinary Services Laboratories has not found changes to the virus that would make it more transmissible to humans, which would indicate that the current risk to the public remains low.

Federal and state agencies are moving quickly to conduct additional testing for HPAI, as well as viral genome sequencing, so that we can better understand the situation, including characterization of the HPAI strain or strains associated with these detections.

At this stage, there is no concern about the safety of the commercial milk supply or that this circumstance poses a risk to consumer health. Dairies are required to send only milk from healthy animals into processing for human consumption; milk from impacted animals is being diverted or destroyed so that it does not enter the food supply. In addition, pasteurization has continually proven to inactivate bacteria and viruses, like influenza, in milk. Pasteurization is required for any milk entering interstate commerce.

The same can be said for beef consumption. "According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and USDA food safety experts, properly prepared beef is safe to eat," said Meat Institute President and CEO, Julie Anna Potts. "HPAI cannot be transmitted to humans by eating meat or poultry products."

Federal agencies are also working with state and industry partners to encourage farmers and veterinarians to report cattle illnesses quickly so that we can monitor potential additional cases and minimize the impact to farmers, consumers and other animals. For the dairies whose herds are exhibiting symptoms, on average about ten percent of each affected herd appears to be impacted, with little to no associated mortality reported among the animals. Milk loss resulting from symptomatic cattle to date is too limited to have a major impact on supply and there should be no impact on the price of milk or other dairy products.

The Indiana State Board of Animal Health says that while no cases have been identified in Indiana, any cattle owner who notices clinical signs consistent with this illness should contact their veterinarian for evaluation and diagnostics. This is a rapidly evolving situation, and USDA and federal and state partners will continue to share additional updates as soon as information becomes available. More information on biosecurity measures can be found [here](#).

Source: USDA APHIS, Indiana State Board of Animal Health



USDA: NO QUARANTINES OR DEPOPULATION FOR CATTLE HERDS WITH AVIAN INFLUENZA

PUBLISHED ON APRIL 6TH, 2024 | HOOSIER AG TODAY BY ERIC PFEIFFER

USDA has confirmed avian influenza in dairy herds in Texas, Kansas, Michigan, Idaho, Ohio and New Mexico. At this point in time, veterinary officials are not putting mandatory quarantines around those dairies.

Dr. Rosemary Sifford with USDA's Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service says there are also no plans right now to depopulate cattle in herds with confirmed bird flu infections.

"So far, it appears that the cattle are able to recover after a couple of weeks go back into the milking herd and so at this point, we do not expect the need to depopulate cattle."

Dairy operators across the country are being asked to step up their biosecurity efforts and to watch their cows for symptoms of avian influenza.

"The primary symptoms in dairy cattle are loss of appetite going off feed and then a dramatic drop in milk production," Sifford says. "Some of the cattle occasionally showed a slight fever."

If you see those symptoms in your herd, Sifford urges you to contact your vet right away.

HOW DID BIRD FLU VIRUS FRAGMENTS GET INTO MILK SOLD IN STORES?

PUBLISHED ON APRIL 28, 2024 | MORNING AG CLIPS

DAVIS, Calif. (THE CONVERSATION) — The discovery of fragments of avian flu virus in milk sold in U.S. stores, including in about 20% of samples in initial testing across the country, suggests that the H5N1 virus may be more widespread in dairy cattle than previously realized.

The Food and Drug Administration, which announced the early results from its nationally representative sampling on April 25, 2024, was quick to stress that it believes the commercial milk supply is safe. The FDA said initial tests did not detect any live, infectious virus. However, highly pathogenic avian influenza virus can make cows sick, and the flu virus's presence in herds in several states and new federal restrictions on the movement of dairy cows between states are putting economic pressure on farmers.

Five experts in infectious diseases in cattle from the University of California, Davis – Noelia Silva del Rio, Terry Lehenbauer, Richard Pereira, Robert Moeller and Todd Cornish – explain what the test results mean, how bird flu can spread to cattle and the impact on the industry.

What are viral fragments of avian flu, and can they pose risks to people?

It's crucial to understand that the presence of viral fragments of H5N1 doesn't indicate the presence of intact virus particles that could cause disease.

The commercial milk supply maintains safety through two critical measures:

- First, milk sourced from sick animals is promptly diverted or disposed of, ensuring it does not enter the food chain.
- Second, all milk at grocery stores is heat treated to reduce pathogen load to safe levels, mainly by pasteurization. Pasteurization has been shown to effectively inactivate H5N1 in eggs, and that process occurs at a lower temperature than is used for milk.

The viral fragments were detected using quantitative polymerase chain reaction testing, which is known for its exceptional sensitivity in detecting even trace amounts of viral genetic material. These fragments are only evidence that the virus was present in the milk. They aren't evidence that the virus is biologically active.

To evaluate whether the presence of the viral fragments corresponds to a virus with the capacity to replicate and cause disease, a different testing approach is necessary. Tests such as embryonated egg viability studies allow scientists to assess the virus's ability to replicate by injecting a sample into an embryonated chicken egg. That type of testing is underway.

On April 24, 2024, the FDA said it had found no reason to change its assessment that the U.S. milk supply is safe. The agency does strongly advise against consuming raw milk and products derived from it because of its inherent risks of contamination with harmful pathogens, including avian flu viruses.



Existing state and federal regulations and industry practices require sick cows or cows with abnormal milk to be segregated so that their milk does not enter the food supply. Proper pasteurization should kill the virus so that it cannot cause infection. (Stock photo via U.S. Department of Agriculture, Public domain)

U.S. FOOD AND AG INDUSTRIES: FEEDING THE ECONOMY REPORT

PUBLISHED MARCH 21, 2024 | HOOSIER AG TODAY | BY C.J. MILLER

In the latest “Feeding the Economy” report that has just been released by more than 30 ag groups, Indiana’s agriculture and food industries have a total economic output of \$219.75 billion, with a direct economic impact of \$87.96 billion.

The 2024 report also revealed the following stats for Indiana’s ag and food sectors:

- Total Jobs: 968,577
- Total Wages: \$53.69 billion
- Total Taxes: \$22.61 billion
- Exports: \$2.90 billion

Across the entire United States, the 2024 report’s findings show that the total economic impact for the food and agriculture-related industries grew 11.8% over the last year, reaching \$9.63 trillion. This represents 20.01% of total U.S. output.

The study also drills down to highlight the impact of this sector to include:

- Total Jobs: 48,665,870 (up 19.53% since the 2020 report)
- Total Wages: \$2.77 trillion (up 33.82% since the 2020 report)
- Total Taxes: \$1.25 trillion (up 36.91% since the 2020 report)
- Exports: \$181.36 billion (down 2.70% since the 2020 report)

There were almost the same number of jobs in agriculture (2.49 million) and manufacturing agricultural products (2.46 million). The number of direct jobs in food and agriculture was up almost 800,000 since the 2020 report (up 20%).

From the 2020 Feeding the Economy report to now, food and agriculture manufacturing jobs grew at a faster rate than any other job category. As a result, manufacturing of agricultural production now accounts for almost 20% of America’s manufacturing jobs, over twice as many as automobile manufacturing. The report shows the significant role that the food and agriculture sectors play in supporting the U.S. economy and helps the public and policymakers better understand how these industries continue to promote those contributions.

Among the sponsors of this year’s “Feeding the Economy” report include: American Soybean Association, National Association of State Departments of Agriculture, National Corn Growers Association, National Milk Producers Federation, National Pork Producers Council, U.S. Dairy Export Council, U.S. Grains Council, and United Soybean Board.



*An Indiana farmer harvesting soybeans in Shelby County.
Photo: C.J. Miller / Hoosier Ag Today.*

RECOGNIZING AND MANAGING POISON HEMLOCK

JOHN E. WOODMANSEE | FEBRUARY 17, 2023

Governor Holcomb issued a proclamation designating Feb. 20-26 Invasive Species Awareness Week in Indiana. It is also National Invasive Species Awareness Week. Today I'm highlighting poison hemlock, an invasive weed.

Purdue experts Bill Johnson and Marcelo Zimmer wrote about poison hemlock in a Purdue Pest & Crop newsletter.

They wrote that poison hemlock can be noticed very early in the spring every year, as it is typically one of the first weeds to green up, usually in late February to early March if temperatures are favorable. They said the largest threat of this weed is the toxicity of its alkaloids if ingested by livestock or humans, but it can also reduce the aesthetic value of landscapes and has been reported to creep into no-till corn and soybean fields as well.



Poison hemlock in "rosette" stage. Photo: Purdue University

Purdue Extension's fact sheet on poison hemlock states that it can also be found along roads, streams, trails, ditches, forest edges, and waste areas.

The Purdue experts said that poison hemlock is a biennial weed that exists as a low-growing herb in the first year, and bolts to three to eight feet tall in the second year, when it produces flowers and seed. It is often not noticed until the bolting and reproductive stages of the second year. Poison hemlock is often confused with wild carrot, but can be distinguished by its lack of hairs and purple blotches that occur on the stems.

The experts pointed out that poison hemlock contains five alkaloids that are toxic to humans and livestock, and it can be lethal if ingested. They warn that the plant's alkaloids may also be absorbed through the skin, so if you find yourself hand-pulling poison hemlock, it would be a good idea to wear gloves. All parts of the plants contain the toxic alkaloids with levels being variable throughout the year. Symptoms of toxicity include nervousness, trembling, and loss of coordination followed by depression, coma, and/or death. Initial symptoms will occur within a few hours of ingestion.

For history buffs, the Greek philosopher Socrates was sentenced to death by hemlock poisoning.

Cases of poisoning due to poison hemlock ingestion are rare as the plants emit a mousy odor that makes it undesirable and unpalatable to livestock and humans. Consumption and toxicity in animals usually occur in poorly managed or overgrazed pastures where animals are forced to graze poison hemlock because desirable forage is lacking.

The Purdue experts said control of poison hemlock with herbicides is most effective when applied to plants in the first year of growth, or prior to bolting and flowering in the second year. The closer to the reproductive stages, the less effective the herbicide.

"In roadside ditches, pastures, and waste areas, herbicides containing triclopyr (Remedy Ultra, Garlon, many others) or triclopyr plus 2,4-D (Crossbow, Crossroad) are most effective in controlling poison hemlock," they said. "Other herbicides that provide adequate control when applied at the proper timing are dicamba (Clarity, many others), metsulfuron-methyl (Escort XP), metsulfuron-methyl plus dicamba plus 2,4-D (Cimarron Max) and clopyralid plus 2,4-D (Curtail)." They caution users to pay attention to pre-plant intervals when these herbicides are used in the spring.

Find the above-referenced article at: <https://extension.entm.purdue.edu/newsletters/pestandcrop/article/poison-hemlock-2/>. Find Purdue Extension's factsheet on poison hemlock at <https://www.extension.purdue.edu/extmedia/FNR/FNR-437-W.pdf>, which contains more detailed management considerations. Additionally, refer to Purdue University Weed Science's "Guide to Toxic Plants in Forages," available online at Purdue Extension's The Education Store, at: www.edustore.purdue.edu.

Below are a few websites for more information:

Report Invasive Species <https://ag.purdue.edu/reportinvasive/>
Indiana Department of Natural Resources <http://www.in.gov/dnr/3123.htm>
Indiana Native Plant Society <https://indiananativeplants.org/>
Midwest Invasive Plant Network <http://www.mipn.org/>

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