



Farm & Ranch Monthly Magazine

Published monthly by The Roundup
PO Box 1207 • Sidney, MT 59270 • 1-800-749-3306

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June 2013 Edition



Sharing Science in Ecuador

See page 24

'Slush Creek Walkers' Pass on Their Love to France

By Ashley Harris

In 1990, Mark Pacovsky bought his wife Shellie, a Tennessee Walking Horse. This was the beginning of a new adventure, as they quickly fell in love with her and continued to want more horses. The Pacovskys now own 40 Tennessee Walking Horses, including 4 stallions. The Pacovskys now operate as Slush Creek Walkers, breeding and raising Tennessee Walking Horses.

A Tennessee Walking Horse (TWH) is known for its 'running walk' and flashy movement. Originally used on plantations and farms in the southern U.S., TWHs are now a popular riding horse due to their calm disposition, smooth gaits (walk), and sure-footedness.

Commonly used as show horses, some TWHs are sored, which includes using chemicals and footpads to make them prance and appear more gallant. Shellie and Mark pride themselves on the fact that they raise their TWHs to be 'sound', or all natural.

In 2010, Slush Creek Walkers received a letter from the south of France, specifically Vieussac. The letter was from a university student, Dora Flament, who was looking for a ranch to do a 12-week internship at. After sending out 250 letters, Flament received word that the Pacovskys would be honored to host her and teach her all they could.

Flament, who was a student at Purpan School of Agriculture in Toulouse, France, at the time, was studying for her Masters Degree in Agricultural Engineering with an emphasis on large animal reproduction. Being a very strict university, part of the curriculum required international studies.

Shellie and Mark welcomed Flament into their home and taught her everything they know about TWHs and ranch-

ing. Slush Creek Walkers ranch is located near Bainville, MT and covers a vast 1800 acres. Not only do they raise horses, but they also farm and cattle ranch as well.

Although Flament was already interested in large animals, when she met the Slush Creek Walkers TWHs she fell in love. Flament was required to write an extensive paper on her internship experiences, which she wrote on the differences between sound and sored TWHs. Her love of the TWHs was quickly turned into a dream, a dream to own and breed TWHs in her homeland of France.

Following her time with Slush Creek Walkers, Flament returned back to France with a new love and dream. In 2012, Flament once again contacted Slush Creek Walkers. This time she was ready to purchase a TWH. She decided on a certain mare, and before leaving for France ensured she was carrying a foal.

April 7th, 2013 the first TWH foal was born in France. Flament estimates there are only about 15 TWHs in her country.

Shellie Pacovsky of Slush Creek Walkers stated that "it was a great experience." So much so, that the following year they once again hosted a student from the same university.

Shellie stated that she and Flament keep in touch regularly and Flament's dream is still to breed TWHs. She graduated from Purpan in May and is continuing her studies in Switzerland until December.

Through the hospitality of the Pacovsky's, they created a new love and dream for Flament.



Flament spent a lot of time working with the horses at Slush Creek Walkers during her stay the summer of 2010.



'SCW French Delight', was the first TWH born in France on April 7th, 2013.

HOT SUMMER SPECIALS!

USED MFWD & 2WD TRACTORS

2005 JD 7920 (170 PTO HP), IVT tranny, MFWD, 3pt hitch w/ quick hitch, 3 hyd's, 380/90R50 duals.....	\$120,00
1994 JD 7800 (145 pto hp) 16 speed, powerquad, MFWD, 3pt hitch, 3 hyd, dual pto, 14.9 duals	\$49,500
1987 Case IH 3594 (182 PTO HP) Powershift, MFWD, 3pt hitch, 3 hyd, 20.8x38 duals.....	\$22,500
1983 JD 4050 (105 PTO HP), powershift, 3pt hitch, 2 hyd's, Dual PTO, 14.9R42 duals	\$22,900
1976 JD 4630, (150 PTO hp), Quadrangle, 20.8X38, PTO, Dual hydraulics, JD Dozer.....	\$16,500
IH 5288 (162 PTO HP) 18 speed tranny, 3 hyd's, PTO, 20.8x38 duals	CALL
1973 John Deere 4430, (125 PTO Hp), Quad Range Trans., Dual PTO, 2 Hyd's, 20.8X34 Duals.....	\$12,500

LOADER TRACTORS

2011 JD 5105M (101 eng HP), 16 speed tranny w/ LITR, MFWD, 3pt hitch, 3 hyd's, dual PTO, JD 563sl loader, 7' bucket, grapple, joystick. ONLY 530 hrs	\$72,500
2008 JD 7330 (125 PTO HP) IVT tranny, MFWD, 3 pt hitch, 3 hydraulics, dual PTO, 18.4X38 singles, JD 741 SL loader, 8' bucket, grapple, joystick	\$109,500
2006 JD 7420 (115 PTO HP) 16 speed power quad tranny, MFWD, 3pt hitch, 3 hydraulics, dual PTO, 18.4x38 singles, JD 740 SL loader, 8' bucket, grapple, joystick.....	\$69,500
1993 JD 6200, power-quad tranny, MFWD, 3 pt hitch, 2 hyd, PTO, 16.9x30 singles, JD 640 NSL loader, 7' bucket, grapple, joystick.....	CALL
JD 5055E (55 eng hp) 9 speed tranny, MFWD, 3pt hitch, JD 553 loader, 6' bucket. ONLY 30 hrs! FACTORY WARRANTY	\$30,000

USED 4WD DRIVE TRACTORS

1998 Case IH 9390 (425 engine HP), 4 hydraulics, 20.8r42 triples	\$99,500
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USED COMBINES

(2) 2012 JD S660 combines, 520/85r38 duals, Contour master, low low hours	CALL
2000 JD 9750 STS, 30.5x32 duals, chopper.....	CALL
2002 JD 9650 STS, 800/65X32 Singles, Chopper, Grain Tank Ext	CALL
1998 JD 9610, 30.5X32 singles, dual range, chopper, chaff spreader w/ 2004 JD 936D platform	CALL
1997 JD 9500 w/ 24.5x32 singles, Dual-range, chopper, 925 platform, pick up reel	CALL
1992 JD 9600 w/ 30.5x32 singles, Dual-range, chopper, chaff spreader, 930 platform.....	CALL
1989 JD 9600 with chopper, 30.5x32 duals, 960 McDon draper header	CALL
1983 JD 7720, 24.5X32, Straw and Chaff Spreader, 224 Platform.....	\$14,500
2010 JD 630R platform, pickup reel	CALL
2004 JD 893 Cornhead , 8 row, 30'	CALL
(2) 2004 JD 635F Flex platform, 35'	CALL
2006 Macdon 973 D platform	CALL
2009 Case IH 2010 Rigid Platform, Bat Reel, Less than 100 Hours	\$20,000
1997 Macdon 962D platform	CALL

SEEDING EQUIPMENT

Flexicoil 5000/2320 Air Hoe Drill, 57', 7.2" Spacing (lot F625)....	\$42,500
JD 787/730 Air Disk Drill, 36', 6" spacing, 170 bushel tank	\$16,500
(2) JD 9350 disk drills, 8' units, fertilizer, hitch.....	\$4,750
(3) JD 9350 disc drills, 10' units, 6" spacing, fertilizer, JD transport hitch	\$11,500

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2013 Froid and Sidney ARS Field Days Coming Up In June

By Ashley Harris

Plans are coming together for two annual dryland Field Days to be held in Froid and Sidney in June. The 2013 Froid Field Day, which is co-sponsored by the Roosevelt and Sheridan County Conservation Districts and Extension Offices, along with the USDA Agricultural Research Service's Northern Plains Agricultural Research Lab (NPARL) in Sidney, will be held on Thursday, June 20, with the Sidney ARS Dryland Field Day following on Friday morning, June 21. That event is also co-sponsored by the Sidney ARS research lab, along with the Richland County Extension Office.

Both Field Days will include information on new studies, special workshops and more. Several presentations are included at both locations, among them a sprayer calibration workshop offered by MSU Extension Agents, Tim Fine of Richland County and Ann Ronning of Roosevelt County. Pesticide points are pending.

There will also be an informative Pipeline Reclamation Mini-Workshop by ARS Plant Ecologist Erin Espeland at both Froid and Sidney. This session will recap topics discussed at the original pipeline workshop held last March but which many interested area residents were unable to attend because of bad weather.

Both locations will also feature pest updates on two insects that have plagued many producers in this area the past couple of years, alfalfa weevil and grasshoppers. Presenters include NPARL Entomologist Dave Branson and Insect Ecologist Tatyana Rand.

The Froid Field Day will begin with registration on Thursday, June 20 at 1pm at the Froid Research Farm located 8 miles north of Culbertson on MT Highway 16 and concludes at 5 pm with a steak supper sponsored by the Conservation Districts.

During the Froid tour, attendees will be introduced to a new sequencing study on site that is examining the impacts of different rotations of oilseeds, pea and durum. One element of that study is looking at changes in microbial communities under the different crops and how they might impact the following crop. In particular, a study by ARS Microbiologist TheCan Caesar is looking at the microbial changes occurring in the soil under oilseeds and the potential impact those changes may have on the following durum crop. There is evidence to suggest that some disease-causing *Fusarium* species could be negatively affected.

Also planned at Froid is a report on the re-energized farm bill debate and other ag related issues before Congress by Gordon Stoner, a grain producer in Outlook, MT, and Past President of the Montana Grain Growers Association. Attendees can also take a look at several new demonstration plots planned for the farmsite this year, weather

permitting, that will feature different varieties of pulses, corn and soybean, along with warm and cool season cover crop mixes.

The Sidney 'Dryland' Field Day will begin with registration at that research farm at 9am, on Friday, June 21st. The farm is located about 4 miles north of Sidney off MT Highway 16. Take a left at County Road 129 and a second left on County Road 346.

At the Sidney Field Day, attendees will be introduced to a new multi-year, multi-discipline study on crop diversity featuring different combinations of winter and spring wheat, malting barley, pea, camelina and canola in 1, 2 and 4 year rotations.

Also planned is discussion of a continuation study to identify the optimal nitrogen application rate for malting barley needed to meet both quality and production requirements, while still curbing greenhouse gas emissions and nitrate leaching.

The National Oilseed Project, which was introduced at last year's Froid Field Day, will also be discussed at Sidney's Field Day. The ARS Oilseed Project is designed to identify and develop the best oilseed combinations by region for making bio-based jet fuel from plant oils. This project is being worked on in multiple locations all over the country with the goal of building up oilseed supplies in sufficient quantities to provide a reliable source for jet biofuel production for the military.

The Sidney Field Day will wrap up the morning with a lunch at the end of the tour which is provided by the Richland County Extension Office.

These events are made possible with the help and contribution from the Roosevelt and Sheridan County Conservation Districts, the Sheridan, Roosevelt and Richland County MSU-Extension Offices and the USDA-ARS Northern Plains Agricultural Research Laboratory. More information will be published in the Roundup as it becomes available.

The logo for Roundup WEB.COM features the word "Roundup" in a large, bold, stylized font with a 3D effect. Below it, "WEB.COM" is written in a smaller, bold, sans-serif font. The entire logo is enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

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2009 CaseIH Puma 155, 3200 Hrs, L760 loader & grapple, MFD, suspended front axle, fast steer, 3 pt., very good condition \$99,000
John Deere 4440, 3 pt, dual pto, good paint, recent engine work \$25,000
JD 4840, 3 pt, PTO \$22,500
2005 CaseIH MX255, MFD, 3pt \$108,000
2008 CaseIH 445, 1,200 hrs. \$32,000
1993 CaseIH 7110, Med, 3 pt, 6600hrs, Farmhand loader, like new tires \$49,000

USED MISCELLANEOUS

Fox Corn Chopper \$4,995
H&S 12R24 Cultivator, guidecones, tunnel shields, flip up discs \$4,995
Alloway 12R24 Cultivator, flipup discs, tunnel shields CALL
Artsway Belly Mower, 6', mounts for a Farmall C Consigned
2008 FarmKing 10x72 auger \$9,500
2009 Rem 3700 Grain Vac, good condition, 120 hrs. \$23,000

USED SEEDING & SPRAYING

Concord 4710 Drill, 3000 tow behind cart, hydraulic drive \$30,000
2005 Brandt 2SB4000, suspended boom, 90', 1500 gal. tank \$25,000
2005 CaseIH SPX 4410 self propelled sprayer, 1200 gal., 90' booms, Raven Auto Trac, 5700 Hrs, consigned \$95,000
2010 CaseIH FlexHoe 400 airdrill, 7.5" spacing, rubber packers, 2330 air cart, variable rate, tow between just traded

USED HARVEST EQUIPMENT

2005 Macdon 963 Draper head, 35', bat reel, no transport, gauge wheels \$31,000
2005 CaseIH 2388, 1267R/1506E hrs., chopper, yeild & moisture monitor, very good cond. CALL
w/ 2005 2042 35' draper head CALL

USED HAYING EQUIPMENT

2006 RBX563 Round Baler, wide pickup, mesh wrap, endless belts, 8,000 bales, good cond. \$26,000
1999 CaseIH RS561 \$12,500
1995 CaseIH 8465 \$8,995
1994 CaseIH 8480 Softcore \$6,995
1990 Hesston 560 Round Baler \$5,500
John Deere 530 round baler \$5,500
CIH RBX 563 baler, mesh, wide pickup Just Traded
2008 CaseIH RB564 round baler, 8700 bales, mesh wrap, wide pickup, endless belts, hydraulic pickup lift, central lube \$29,900
2005 Frontier 18 wheel high capacity rake \$16,000
2003 CaseIH RBX562, MeshWrap, Like New \$24,500
2001 JD 4890 Windrower, 18' auger head \$39,000

USED Mowers

Grasshopper 620, 52" Deck, 400Hrs \$4,500
Grasshopper 618, 52" Deck, Bagger \$4,500

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Sugar Beets Look Good This Spring

Sugar beet farmers and Sidney Sugars personnel are smiling right now with multi-million dollar rains producing good stands of beets.

Sidney Sugars agricultural manager Russ Fullmer says the season got off to a rocky start. Planting was late and then the crop was really in trouble with moisture leaving the seedbed. Stands were spotty and some areas were in tough shape. On the positive side, less than 100 acres had to be replanted due to wind damage.

Then the rains came. With the plentiful moisture all over Sidney Sugars growing area, the countryside is beautiful and the fields are really pretty. "They look really good with the beets at the 6 leaf stage in some fields," Fullmer commented. "Now we need to get some heat and sit back and

watch them grow".

Growers will need to be aggressive about spraying as soon as conditions allow, since the weeds like the moisture just as much as the beets. "Growers will need to use high rates of Roundup, or the generic. The weeds are growing like gangbusters," Fullmer said. A lot of growers were able to spray all or some of their crops before the rains came, and will need to follow up as needed.

"We're looking at an average to above average crop," Fullmer predicted. He said he would never turn down a rain, but heat units are also needed. "We're behind on growing degree days but I have faith that the heat will come this summer and the crops will take off. We got a late start but we're doing OK!"

A Little Bit Country Planting Trees Correctly

By Warren Froelich, NDSU Extension Agent

Planting a tree correctly and following recommended practices for early care are extremely important in giving the tree a good start.

Besides selecting the right tree for the environment it is very important to plant it at the proper depth. The root collar should be just above the soil layer. The root collar is at the bottom of the main stem which slightly flares out just before the roots begin. When planting trees there is a rhyme that goes as follows: plant too high the tree will die; plant too low and the tree will not grow.

When planting bare root trees, inspect the root growth pattern. Sometimes there are roots that look like they may eventually circle and girdle the tree as it matures. Just sever these roots. Also, with bare root stock, make sure there is good root to soil contact.

Another recommendation is to apply a three-inch deep layer of mulch around the base of new plantings just beyond the drip line. A recent assessment by the North Dakota Forest Service showed that mulching has a beneficial effect on the ability of newly planted maple varieties to withstand adverse weather conditions. Wood mulch helps to conserve moisture, limits sod competition and creates a buffer around the tree reducing the chance of accidental contact with lawn care equipment that can injure or girdle a tree. Rock mulch is not preferred, since it can physically harm trees as they grow and may raise soil alkalinity.

I frequently am asked the question "How often or how much water should I give the tree?" This is a tough one to answer because soil type, size of the tree, species, and rainfall all must be considered. Clay soils have the ability to hold more water than sandy soils thus less frequent water-

ing is needed.


As a general rule of thumb, my NDSU tree consultants have suggested giving a new tree one to two gallons of water per inch diameter for the first few weeks. After this period, apply about twice that amount under the tree's drip line every four days or so until August. Stopping supplemental watering at this time encourages the tree to properly harden off prior to the winter months.

In our quest to give a newly transplanted tree a good start, I occasionally find some trees receive too much water which can deprive tree roots of needed oxygen. If you can form a mushy mudball, the soil is likely too wet for most trees.

Low Growing Degree Days Not Helping Corn Growth

Corn requires about 122 degree days (dd) to emerge. If planted deeper than two inches or for fields with moderate to heavy residue the dd will be slightly higher. During the period of May 16-27, accumulated dds in the Williston/Sidney area was around 115-120.

Corn growing dds can be used to predict emergence and leaf appearance in most environments. North Dakota data suggests that new leaves appear after about 70 dd. Degree days are running behind normal for the latter half of May. This may be good news for small grains but not for corn. Not only is above ground development of corn delayed by cool weather but the root system is also impacted. It is not unusual for corn to appear yellow and nutrient deficient when soil temperatures hover around 50 degrees. Extensive root development is needed for the corn plant to find and take up much needed phosphorus. Even when a pop-up fertilizer is applied, the plants may appear yellow until temperatures warm and root growth increases.



Rick Gafken



Bruce Anderson



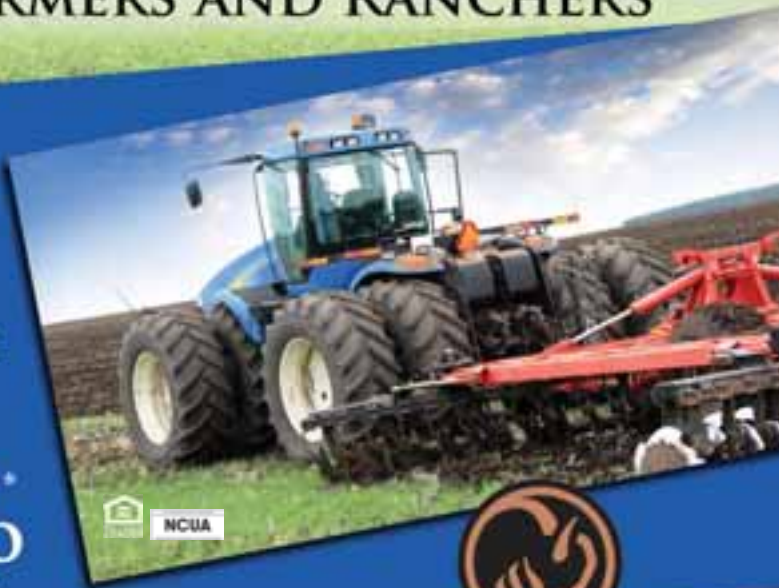
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The Professional Bull Riders Are Coming to the Richland County Fairgrounds on June 28 & 29

45 of the top PBR bull riders will be featured each night against some of the greatest bulls the PBR has to offer. Several bulls that have been seen on the weekly televised events such as "Buck Wild", "Pandemic", "Pimp Daddy", "Brush Fire" and others will bring all the bull power these pro cowboys can handle.

Also featured this year is the World Class Bronc Riding Futurity. 12 different contractors will feature their best four and five year old bucking horses to compete against each other while trying to throw Montana and North Dakota's best bronc riders in the dirt. The bucking horses are earning points to qualify for the finals in October, where they can compete for a \$50,000 purse sponsored by Cinch.

Concessions and Beer Garden:

Four-time world bronc riding champ, Monte Hawkeye Henson will be appearing nightly with music when the gates open at 6 p.m.

National Finals Qualifiers, Larry Sandvick, Mark, Scott Breeding and several other cowboys will be available for autographs at 6 p.m. so come early.

Advanced tickets will be available at the Sidney Chamber of Commerce and All West Ranch Supply; the cost is \$15/adults and \$8/children. Tickets will also be available for purchase at the door; \$18/adults and \$10/children.

This year's event will feature stock from CN Stars Bull Company, Arrow K Rodeo, Powder River Rodeo, Burch Rodeo, Brockman and Hyland Rodeo, Waagen Rodeo, Mosbrucker Rodeo and Viara Rodeo. These names are known world-wide in the rodeo business, so don't miss the chance to see all the great stock matched against some of the world's greatest cowboys at the same time, in one arena, right here in Sidney, MT.



Neal Hermanson Memorial Ranch Rodeo and Ranch Horse Competition to be Held June 22

For the 5th year, the Neal Hermanson Memorial Ranch Rodeo and Ranch Horse Competition will once again run as part of the Town and Country Festival held each June in Sidney. The ranch horse competition and rodeo will take place at the Richland County Fairgrounds on Saturday, June 22, with tickets costing \$5 each, children under 6 free.

The Ranch Horse Competition begins at 9 a.m. on Saturday. There will be a junior horse division for horses 5 years of age and younger and a senior horse division for horses 6 years of age and older; and new this year is the ladies division. Top winner will receive a handmade saddle made by Trent Taylor. Organizers will also add \$1,000 in each division.

The event also features a junior youth division with riders 13 and under and a senior youth division for riders 14-18. Kids will also be able to enjoy a stick horse race.

The Neal Hermanson Memorial Ranch Rodeo and Calcutta begins at 2 p.m. on Saturday, June 22nd. The winning team qualifies for the NILE, held in Billings, MT; \$2,000 will be awarded in the Ranch Horse Competition.

Last year 100% of the profits went to the Empty Saddle Memorial Foundation. The foundation has given out scholarships over the course of the year to kids around the Eastern Montana and North Dakota areas.

To enter, contact Nikki Winter at 701-481-2885 or email nealhermanson@midrivers.com.

For more information on the Neal Hermanson Memorial Ranch Rodeo and Ranch Horse Competition, please visit www.nealhermansonmemorial.com.



Ian Pennington leads Neal's horse Scooter at the 2012 rodeo. (Photo courtesy of www.nealhermansonmemorial.com)

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MSU Seeks Nominations For Outstanding Ag Leaders

Submitted by Susan Fraser

Montana State University's College of Agriculture is seeking nominations for outstanding agricultural leaders to honor during its 2013 "Celebrate Agriculture!!" on Oct. 25-26.

"The weekend is about sharing ideas and developing relationships," said Jeff Jacobsen, college dean and director of the Montana Agricultural Experiment Station.

The College of Agriculture annually presents Outstanding Agricultural Leaders awards to those who have exhibited outstanding leadership in Montana public service, as an agricultural producer, industry advocate, agribusiness leader, or as a friend of agriculture.

The deadline for nominations is Sept. 9. Nominees not selected will be reconsidered the following year. Applications should be updated with current information. Successful award applicants will be: well respected in their agricultural community; actively involved in the agriculture industry with accomplishments that impact many; an industry leader, or an upcoming, active and innovative producer; or have a lifetime of achievement in agriculture.

Current MSU, state, or federal employees will not be considered except in the friend of agriculture category. Past MSU, state or federal employees need to have been retired for a minimum of two years, and shown service above and beyond their job requirements to be considered.

Download nomination forms at: <http://ag.montana.edu/development/nomination.pdf>. For more information, contact Susan Fraser at sfraser@montana.edu or call (406) 994-3683. Forms should be received at 202 Linfield Hall, MSU, Bozeman, MT 59717 by Sept. 9.

FARM AUCTION

SATURDAY, JUNE 22, 2013 10:00 A.M.

LOCATION: From Glendive, MT-Take Highway 16N toward Sidney for 3.6 miles, turn left on Bloomfield/Richey Highway 254N for 31 miles, turn right on Road 516 for 6.8 miles, road will veer to the left and go 2.3 miles. From Richey, MT-Take Highway 254S for 11.5 miles, turn left on Road 516 for 6.8 miles, road will veer to the left and go 2.3 miles. Roads will be marked.

OWNERS: BILL HOLZWORTH 406-583-7555 • Lunch will be available.



FARM MACHINERY

- 1983 Versatile 875 4WD Tractor, (3) hydraulics, 200 hours on a complete overhaul—sleeves, pistons, main & rod bearings, rebuilt heads, new can, new clutch & pressure plate, throw-out bearings, new center hinge bearings
- Degelman 12" Dozer & Frame
- 1978 Intl 1086 diesel Tractor, 540 & 1000 PTO, (3) hydraulics & Intl Frontend Loader w/bucket, grapple & hay basket
- 1956 JD 50 Tractor, new tires (runs good)
- MF Skid Steer, model 711, hydrostat
- Side-Mount Mower
- Small Toolbar
- Blade
- JD 41" Toolbar, model 1610, Drags & Honeybee Rod
- Wilrich 26" Toolbar & Honeybee Rod
- MF 37" Toolbar, double wing lift
- Krause 30" Tandem Disc
- (3) 14" Intl Hoe Drills, 12" spacing, fertilizer, model 7100
- (3) 8" JD Hoe Drills, 10" spacing, traction fertilizer, model LZ1010
- JD 3 pt 6" Rotary Mower, model 603
- Glen Coe 3 pt Post Hole Digger

COMBINES, TRUCKS, PICKUPS, CARS & SIDE-BY-SIDES

- 1995 Case IH 2188 Axial Flow Combine, new feeder chain, airfoil chaffer & tires, 3167 separator hours, 3953 engine hours (very clean)
- Case IH 30' Auger Header, model 1010
- 1991 JD 9600 Combine, fine chopper & chaff spreader, 3941 separator hours
- JD 30' Auger Header, model 930
- 1984 GMC Brigadier Twin Screw Truck, pusher axle, 300 Cummins, 9-speed, 20' box & hoist
- 1968 Chevy Single Axle 2-ton Truck, 366 gas engine, 5&2 trans, 16' box & hoist
- 1964 Ford N600 2-ton Truck, 330 gas engine, 4 & 2 trans, 15' box & hoist
- 1994 Chevy Extended Cab 2500 Pickup, 350 engine, auto, long box & topper
- 1980 Ford F250 Pickup, 400 engine, 4-speed
- 1979 Ford F250 Pickup, 400 engine, 4-speed
- 1983 Volkswagen diesel Rabbit, 4-speed
- 1983 Chevy Citation (needs headlight hardware & Grill)
- Polaris Ranger Side-by-Side (consigned)



SPRAY EQUIPMENT

- NYB Pickup Sprayer w/500 gallon tank, 60' booms
- 3 pt Hitch Sprayer, 300 gallon tank, 40' booms, hydraulic driven
- Water Transfer Pump w/B&S motor
- 12 volt Chemical Pump (2-years old)
- Chemical Loading Tank w/Venture valve
- 1100 gallon Water Tank

MOSTLY NEW TOOLS (Consigned)

- Proto & SK Socket Sets (many)
- Many Hand Tools & Wrench Sets
- 4' Torque Socket Wrench
- Large Vise
- Wissota Grinder
- Electric Grinders
- Electric Drills
- Chain Hoists
- Tap & Die Set
- Multi Gear & Bearing Puller
- Saws, Hammers
- 10 gauge Extension Cords
- Allen Wrenches, metric & standard
- Bud Wheel Sockets
- Creepers
- Greasers, Oil Cans
- 22 Eaton 8-place Load Panels
- Barrel Pumps
- Magneto Timing Testers
- Flashlights
- (4) Army Coolers
- Many more items

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- Push Lawn Mowers
- Gustafson Seed Cleaner
- Metal Milling Machine
- Small Metal Turning Lathe
- Large Drill Press
- Large Metal Ban Saw
- Metal Shaper
- Light 2-wheel Trailer
- (4) Chevy Pickup Tires w/rims
- Approx. (200) Used Steel Posts
- Saddle
- Big Valley Squeeze Chute (old)



AUCTIONEER'S NOTE: Bill has retired and lease out his farm and will be offering his full line of machinery at auction. Bill took pride in his equipment and it has been very well maintained. The consigned tools in this sale are mostly new. You don't want to miss this sale! Hope to see you on June 22nd!!! Rick



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Betaseed, Inc. Announces the Promotion of John Enright to President Effective July 1

Submitted by Rene Schevver

The Board of Directors at Betaseed is proud to announce the appointment of John Enright to the position of President effective July 1, 2013. Mr. Enright joined Betaseed in November of 1995 and has held a number of roles in account-

2011 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program Deadline Approaching

Submitted by Dale Ihry

Agricultural producers have until June 7, 2013 to sign up for the 2011 Supplemental Revenue Assistance Program (SURE). The SURE program is part of the Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Farm Bill). Under the 2008 Farm Bill, SURE authorizes assistance to farmers and ranchers who suffered crop losses caused by natural disasters occurring through September 30, 2011.

The 2011 SURE program provides benefits for farm revenue losses due to natural disasters that occurred during the 2011 crop year. SURE is available to eligible producers on farms in counties with Secretarial disaster declarations, including contiguous counties, that have incurred crop production or quality losses of at least 10%, or both, and includes all crops grown by a producer nationwide, except grazed crops; or any farm in which, for the crop year, the actual production on the farm because of disaster-related conditions is 50 percent or less than normal production of the farm.

As of September 30, 2011, the Department's authority to operate the SURE program expired. Production losses due to disasters occurring after September 30, 2011, are not eligible for disaster program coverage.

Producers interesting in signing up for the program should contact their local FSA office or visit www.fsa.usda.gov/sure for additional information about program benefits and eligibility.

ing and administration during his career. Currently serving as the Chief Financial Officer for the company, he has been a member of the Betaseed Senior Leadership team for over six years, contributing to the development and implementation of the company's strategic plan. Mr. Enright holds a Bachelor's Degree in Accounting from the University of Wisconsin – Eau Claire.

Noting Betaseed's established record of success since its founding in 1970, Mr. Enright is looking forward to Betaseed providing exceptional products and services to the market based on the professional work and dedication of its employees. "I am confident that Betaseed has both the leadership and staff to build on its existing strengths to meet the needs of our customers," said Enright. "I look forward to the continued development of the organization to ensure future growth".

Mr. Enright replaces Kurt Wickstrom who has accepted a new position as President and Chief Executive Officer of Minn-Dak Farmers Cooperative. John and Kurt will work together until Mr. Wickstrom's departure from Betaseed on June 30. "Kurt's leadership has been crucial for the company to succeed during his five year tenure at Betaseed," noted Enright. "We wish Kurt the very best in the future".

Betaseed, Inc., headquartered in Shakopee, Minnesota is the market leader in sugarbeet seed. Known for strong variety performance, Betaseed has had a longstanding commitment to the beet sugar industry focusing its research on developing new varieties to improve the efficiency and profitability of sugar production.

The logo for Roundup WEB.COM features the word "Roundup" in a large, bold, stylized font with a 3D effect. Below it, "WEB.COM" is written in a smaller, bold, sans-serif font. The entire logo is enclosed in a thin black rectangular border.

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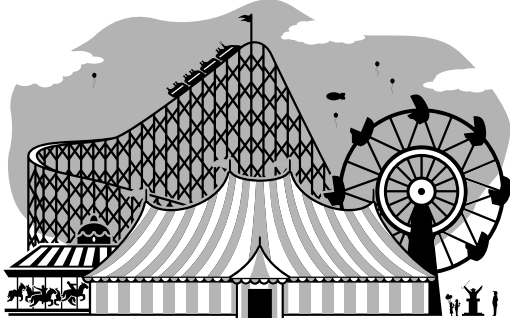
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• Carnival & Funtastic Kid Zone Thurs-Sat, July 11-13 • KIDDYUP Goat Roaping Fri & Sat, July 12 & 13 • Come See The Shooting Sports Trailer! •

Wednesday, July 10

11 am.....Entry of Open Class Exhibits
2 pmEntry of ALL 4-H Livestock & Ultrasound Steers
6 pmEntry of Open Class Exhibits

Thursday, July 11

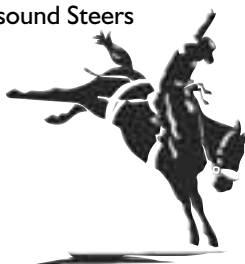
11 am.....Curly's Funtastic Kid Zone Opens
1 pmJudging of Open Class Exhibits
4 pmFair Parade-Main Street
5:30 pmFree Beef Barbecue

Friday, July 12

9 am.....Commercial Exhibits Open
2 pm4-H Livestock Sale
6 pmDemolition Derby
9 pm“Smokehouse” Dance

Saturday, July 13

9 am.....Youth Rodeo
1 & 6 pm.....NDRA Rodeo Slack & Rodeo
11:30 am.....Face Painting & Bean Bag Toss
3 pmLil' Buckaroo Rodeo
9 pm“Smokehouse” Dance



Montana Stockgrowers Mid-Year Meeting to be Held June 7-8 in Missoula

Submitted by Ariel Overview

The Montana Stockgrowers Association (MSGA) is gearing up for this year's Mid-Year Meeting to be held June 7-8 in Missoula, Mont. at the Hilton Garden Inn. Mid-Year is one of the two major meetings MSGA holds annually. MSGA members will gather to discuss the issues facing Montana ranching families and set interim policy to guide the association through the rest of the year. The highlight of Mid-Year will be the Ranch Tour on Friday afternoon, June 7. Also, eligible attendees of the meeting will have a special opportunity to double their chances to win the Ford F-250 to be given away by MSGA and the Montana Ford Stores at MSGA's Annual Convention, Dec. 12-14 in Billings.

The Mid-Year Ranch Tour will feature five stops in Missoula and the Bitterroot Valley. The first stop will be at the Missoula Smokejumper Base with lunch provided by the Blackfoot Valley CattleWomen. Attendees will have an opportunity to tour the facility and meet some of the

smokejumpers. The second stop will be at the Program in Ecological Agriculture and Society (PEAS) Farm, a hub of Garden City Harvest's programs, and at 10 acres, the largest neighborhood farm in Missoula. Next, the tour will travel south of Missoula to the Bitterroot Valley and Sutherlin Farms, a family-run, diversified operation that has a registered Red Angus cattle herd, a commercial cattle herd, and a bull development feedlot. Next stop will be at the Mytty Angus Ranch, which has been in operation since 1998 in Florence, Mont. Mytty Angus strives to focus on fertility first and then to zero in on structural soundness and phenotypical cattle that will consistently deliver calves with powerful weaning weights and yearling weights. From the Mytty Angus Ranch, the tour will travel to the Lolo Peak Arena for the final stop and a tri-tip steak dinner by Sutherlin Farms, music and entertainment by Take Two Productions, and the famous Stick Horse Race fundraiser for MSGA's research, Education and Endowment Foundation.

Other highlights of the meeting include Friday's Opening General Session with keynote speaker Monica J. Lindeen, Montana Commissioner of Securities and Insurance. The Young Stockgrowers will host their Advocating for Ag Lunch on Saturday, June 8 featuring keynote speaker Captain Peter Shinn of the Air National Guard who will talk about accompanying a group of soldiers into the heart of the most dangerous territory in Afghanistan in order to help Afghan farmers improve their profitability and feed their people.

Attendees of this year's Mid-Year meeting who register for the full two-day Mid-Year package, and are a Rancher, Feeder/Stocker or Young Stockgrower member of MSGA, can double their chances to win the Ford F-250 that MSGA and the Montana Ford Stores will give away to one lucky member at the Annual Convention. The winner will be selected from those who attend Annual Convention, and are present at the Grand Finale Banquet.

For more information about MSGA's 2013 Mid-Year Meeting, contact MSGA's office at 406-442-3420. Registration packets are available online at www.mtbeef.org. A block of rooms has been reserved at the Hilton Garden Inn, 406-532-5300.

The Montana Stockgrowers Association, a non-profit organization representing nearly 2,500 members, strives to serve, protect and advance the economic, political, environmental and cultural interests of cattle producers, the largest sector of Montana's number one industry, agriculture.

Purchase Crop Hail Insurance by August 15 Deadline

Submitted by Bill Herbolich

Montana farmers and ranchers can purchase state hail insurance at Department of Revenue Property and Assessment county offices until August 15. With crop values high, now is the time to evaluate crop insurance needs.

Montana state hail insurance is designed to cover basic crop inputs and, for many farmers, supplements crop insurance offered by private companies. All of the commonly grown crops in Montana are eligible for state hail insurance.

The Montana Legislature recently increased coverage limits under the program. However, the law takes effect October 1 and changes will be implemented for the 2014 growing season.

This season, dryland producers can insure crops for up to \$50 an acre and irrigated crops can be insured for up to \$76 an acre. For more information, contact Bill Herbolich at the department at (406) 444-2402 or by email at agr@mt.gov.



Farmers & Ranchers are invited to join the fun at the... Ag Appreciation Golf Tournament

FREE FOR AREA FARMERS & RANCHERS (Adults Only)

Monday, July 8, 2013

At The Sidney Country Club

Registration 7:30 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.

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☐ **Yes, I'd like to play in the golf tournament.** Please register no later than June 28. Limited number of participants.
Must be 21 or older.

Name _____ Phone _____

Return to the Sidney Chamber office at 909 S. Central, Sidney, MT 59270 or Call 433-1916 Adults only.

Golfing free for producers. Businesses must sponsor a team to play.

Please wear proper footwear, boots are not permitted on the course.

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Pacific's road to becoming a steel and recycling giant began as a one-man operation in Spokane, Wash. Joe Thiebes emigrated from Germany in the 1880's and followed his family's business tradition of trading hides and furs. Soon, Thiebes sent his son, also named Joe, to the wilds of Montana. In the early 1920's the younger Thiebes officially founded Pacific Hide & Fur Depot in Great Falls.

During World War 1, the company expanded beyond furs and hides into collecting ferrous and nonferrous scrap. This scrap metals venture eventually led the firm to branch out in the 1950's into sales of new steel products. The Thiebes family business continued into the third generation, with another son again named Joe, joining forces with his father

as the company steadily opened additional locations under the Pacific Hide & Fur name.

The Thiebes family owned the company and the senior Joe Thiebes continued to serve as chairman of the board until his death in 1988, through he wasn't involved in Pacific's day-to-day management. The end of daily family involvement in the business came with the death of the younger Joe Thiebes in 1982. However, Pacific is dedicated to carrying on the Thiebes family tradition of "shooting straight".

Today, Pacific is an employee-owned corporation with 43 branch offices in Washington, Idaho, Utah, Nevada, Wyoming, South Dakota, North Dakota, Colorado, Montana & Alberta, Canada.

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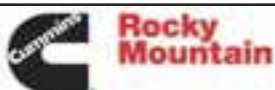
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Crops and Weeds Field Day set June 27 at MSU's Post Research Farm

Submitted by MSU News Service

A free Crops and Weeds Field Day will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Thursday, June 27, at Montana State University's Post Research Farm west of Bozeman.

This is an opportunity for pest control advisors, farm managers, chemical company cooperators and students to learn about ongoing crop and weed research programs at MSU. Research and demonstration plots of weed management techniques, pesticide application strategies, nutrient dynamics, cropping systems, insect management and crop

traits will be open throughout the day with staff available to answer questions. Participants can also bring in water samples to do a quick pH test.

Speakers will include Fabian Menalled, Ed Davis, Erick Lehnhoff, and Erin Burns on weed management; Phil Bruckner on winter wheat breeding; Cecil Tharp on water quality and pesticide performance, David Weaver on wheat stem sawfly management; Pat Hatfield on integrated crop-livestock programs, and Emily Lockard, Hilary Parkinson and Linnea Skoglund on MSU Extension programs.

Attendees can receive Certified Crop Advisor CEU credits and commercial and private applicator pesticide recertification credits.

Registration is free. Refreshments, lunch and handbook will be provided.

The schedule is:

8:30 to 9 a.m. – Registration, welcome and news; 9 to 9:10 a.m. – MSU Extension, Gallatin County news; 9:10 to 9:40 a.m. – Pathogen and weed ID, Hilary Parkinson and Linnea Skoglund, MSU Schutter Diagnostic Lab; 9:40 to 10:20 a.m. – Integrated crop-livestock production, Pat Hatfield, Animal and Range Sciences; 10:20 to 11 a.m. – Herbicide resistance, news and updates. Fabian Menalled, Erick Lehnhoff and Erin Burns, Land Resources and Environmental Sciences; 11 a.m. to noon – Weed management in Montana, Ed Davis and Menalled, LRES; Noon to 12:40 p.m. – Lunch break; 12:40 to 1:20 p.m. – Impact of water quality on pesticide performance, Cecil Tharp, Animal and Range Sciences; 1:20 to 2 p.m. – Wheat stem sawfly management, David Weaver, LRES; 2 to 2:40 p.m. – Winter canola agronomy and diversified crop rotations, Perry Miller, LRES; 2:40 to 3:30 p.m. – Winter wheat breeding for Montana, Phil Bruckner, Plant Sciences and Plant Pathology; 3:30 p.m. – Adjourn.

Participants are asked to pre-register no later than June 10 by contacting Hilary Parkinson at 406-994-6297 or hilary.parkinson@montana.edu. They can otherwise register at the Post Farm on June 27. The Post Farm is located six miles west of Bozeman on U.S. Highway 191.

For more information, visit the MSU Cropland Weed Management Website at <http://www.ipm.montana.edu/CropWeeds>.



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- Audiology Services
- 7 - **Dr. Ravindra Joshi**
- Orthopedist
- 11 - **Dr. Jessica Mugge**
- Behavioral Health - Psychology
Dr. Erdal Diri
- Rheumatologist
- 12 - **Dr. Jessica Mugge**
- Behavioral Health - Psychology
Dr. Lane Lee
- Surgeon
- 13 - **Dr. Emad Dodin**
- Interventional Cardiology
- 18 - **Dr. Alexandre Kindy**
- Orthopedist
Dr. Jessica Mugge
- Behavioral Health - Psychology
- 19 - **Dr. Jessica Mugge**
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- 20 - **Dr. Mark Noel**
- ENT (Ear Nose Throat) - Otolaryngology
- Audiology Services
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Ag Golf Tournament Looking For Sponsors

Join in on the fun and support your local ranchers and farmers by sponsoring the 12th Annual Ag Appreciation Golf Tournament which will be held on July 8th.

The event is organized by the Sidney Area Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture, which is in the process of getting sponsors lined up for the event. Sponsorships are available at three different levels: \$50 golf cart sponsorship, \$150 hole sponsorship or \$200 team sponsorship. The \$50 sponsorship includes signage to promote business, while the \$150 sponsorship allows business to have giveaways and

signage at a specific hole. The \$200 sponsorship allows two people from the business to be part of a team, partnered with ranchers and farmers. All sponsorships and golfer registrations are offered on a first paid, first reserved basis.

This is a great way to mingle and make connections with your farm and ranch friends and customers. For more information about sponsorships please contact the Sidney Area Chamber of Commerce and Agriculture at 406-433-1916.



During the Ag Appreciation golf tournament, businesses have the opportunity to sponsor a team, a cart or a hole. Brandon Taylor (second from the right), Manager of the Microtel Inn & Suites, had many items available to the golfers at his sponsored hole at last year's tournament.



Hole sponsor, Farm Bureau Financial Services, was manned by the office staff during last year's Ag Appreciation Golf Tournament.



Golfers at last year's Ag Appreciation Golf Tournament show their door prizes donated by Dr. Ryan Laqua of Yellowstone Chiropractic.

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MSU College Of Agriculture Has New Wheat Variety Available For Licensing

Submitted by Sepp Jannotta

Montana State University researchers have produced a new line of hard white winter wheat that shows potential to produce as well as one of the most popular red winter wheat varieties currently grown in Montana.

The new hard white winter wheat variety, a line cur-

rently identified as MTW08168, is similar to the widely popular Montana variety of Yellowstone red winter wheat in yield, agronomic characteristics and resistance to prevalent races of stripe rust.

The new variety stands out from Yellowstone as having a hard white kernel versus the hard red kernel of Yellowstone.

MTW08168 also has a higher grain volume weight, with about one half pound per bushel grain volume weight. It heads about two and a half days later than Yellowstone and averages close to 2 inches taller than Yellowstone.

MSU is the major supplier of new wheat varieties for Montana growers with approximately 2.5 million acres of MSU varieties grown in the state from 2010 to 2012, according to the Montana Agricultural Statistics Service.

A report on the origin, breeding history and characteristics of MTW08168 compared to other winter wheat lines is available through the MSU Technology Transfer Office. The MSU Agricultural Experiment Station anticipates 200 bushels of foundation seed from current seed production. Trial lines are available for observation.

To be considered for licensing the MTW08168 variety, please submit a proposal by June 15 that includes:

The terms on the sheet available from the MSU Technology Transfer Office.

A plan for segregating storage and processing of MTW08168 from other varieties.

Naming of the new variety may be subject to the terms of its licensing.

Currently, MSU has 213 licenses from technologies developed by faculty and researchers. Of those, 85 licenses are with Montana companies.

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About The Ag Roundup



The Ag Roundup is a monthly Farm & Ranch Magazine. It is delivered to over 10,000 farm & ranch families in Western North Dakota and Eastern Montana. The advertising and news deadline for the July 2013 issue is June 25.
Subscription Rate: \$15 per year.

Mailing Address:

The Roundup
P.O.Box 1207
Sidney, MT

Production Office:

Located at 111 West Main in Sidney

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Jaronski Teaches Workshop in Ecuador

By Ashley Harris

Following an invitation, Stefan Jaronski who is a Research Entomologist with the USDA-ARS NPARRL in Sidney, conducted a two week workshop on developing microbes for use as natural pest control agents in Ecuador.

During his time in Ecuador, Jaronski showed attendees the whole process from selection of candidate microbes (viruses, bacteria, fungi, nematodes), through mass production, to application and insect pest management.

The workshop consisted of 10 labs and 10 lectures, each of which lasted three hours, each day. Due to the language barrier, Jaronski had to have a translator as his Spanish is not good enough to conduct a full class.

The audience was a mixture of indigenous family farmers, faculty and students from various Ecuadorian universities, government scientists, as well as staff from several



Jaronski showed students all the steps in producing and applying microbes as a natural insect control agent during his two week workshop in Ecuador. Here he demonstrates how he grows the microbe on grains of wheat.

Ecuadorian biopesticide companies. The lecture portion had 35 attendees, with the lab portion being limited to 20 attendees as the workspace was smaller.

Workshop attendees got hands on experience in every step. Jaronski went to Ecuador a week early to get all the steps set up. As he explained, it was like a cooking show where every step is already done, so the participants gets hands-on experience with every step..

The whole trip came about last year when Jaronski was invited to consult on the research programs of the Ecuadorian counterpart to USDA's Agricultural Research Service. The Ecuadorians are very interested in building their own infrastructure for microbe production, not only for crops destined for their own use but also for export to U.S. and Europe, such as roses and bananas. The microbes are for use against plant



Left: Many Ecuadorians attended Jaronski's two week workshop. Attendees included university students and faculty, biopesticide companies, as well as indigenous farmers. A few of the attendees are pictured here studying the microbe under the microscopes during a lab session.

diseases as well as insect pests. As a result of last year's visit Jaronski was invited by an Ecuadorean university to teach the workshop.

The Ecuadorian government wants to limit chemical pesticides and is really pushing for alternatives such as microbes, especially fungi that attack insects. Jaronski explained these fungi acting like a "fatal athlete's foot of insects." All these microbes are specific pathogens of insects, or plant diseases, and do not affect humans or animals.

Fungi have been known for hundreds of years, yet didn't come back until the 1970s. Although the use of chemicals is a quicker process, it costs millions of dollars to even get one chemical commercialized.

Due to the cost difference between the production of chemicals and the mass production of microbes, many

countries turned to the microbes many years ago.

Many of the indigenous farmers in Ecuador want to keep everything biological. Although the biggest indigenous farm is around two acres, they are popular and supply produce to the community.

Their interest in the use of microbes has escalated to the point that Jaronski may be going back to Ecuador next year to train them more and to help set up a facility for the indigenous Indian farmers, where they can produce their own microbes rather than purchase them.

Although Jaronski works for the NPARL, he has "lots of fingers in lots of pots", as he put it. He has been asked to assist or consult in various different situations concerning using microbes to control insects, including work at MSU-Bozeman, NDSU, Republic of Georgia, Senegal, in the Azores and now Ecuador.

Community Cooperation

Submitted by Gary Schaff

Savage FFA completed and delivered a new recycle shed for Richland County. It is located at IGA parking lot in Sidney. It replaces an older shed with issues. Richland Opportunity Inc. selected this site for its heavy use and a high traffic area of the county. The funds for this project were made possible through a National FFA Learning to Serve Rural Youth Development Grant. The grant is financed by the USDA-National Institute (NIFA) for support of service-learning projects across the nation. Sidney FFA was

one of 58 chapters across 15 states to receive this grant for the 3rd year. The grant term has exceeded \$10,000. Sidney FFA (having made two sheds last year) subcontracted the construction to Savage and Lambert FFA chapters. Lambert FFA will be completing their shed this June. FFA chapters, ROI, City of Sidney and Richland County continues to promote recycling, reusing, and reducing events and practices by all citizens, businesses and institutions. Our land fill issues are being compounded, stretched and increasingly expensive.



Above: Emily Schaff and Ryan Steinbeisser of Sidney FFA finish off the shed with program signs.

Below: Savage FFA advisor Shane Stender and community supporter, Gary Miller, delivers the shed to IGA parking lot.



Powder River Meat Company Open For Business

"Meat & Greet" Event Planned May 31

Submitted by Tamara Choat

Powder River Meat Company, the newest business in Terry, Mont., will officially open its doors on Friday, May 31, with a grand opening "Meat & Greet" event from noon-5 p.m. The custom meat processing shop is located in the building formerly occupied by Forcella's Custom Meats. Owners Travis and Tamara Choat and partner Tanner Carpenter purchased the business in early May, and are reopening with plans to continue custom livestock and wild game processing, as well as add a retail meat counter and offer specialty meat products and custom orders.

"We are looking forward to contributing to the thriving, small business community of Terry and the surrounding region," said Travis Choat, who will serve as general manager of the business.

The three pillars of Powder River Meat Company are science – utilizing food safety technology and academic research to provide wholesome products; service – working with customers to meet their needs through customized care, and satisfaction – providing exemplary products and results to earn repeat customers.

Carpenter, who is from Kiowa, Colo., will work full time as operations manager, managing day-to-day operations. He will process and cut all meat, and design improvements in mechanisms and food safety operations. Carpenter has a bachelor's degree in animal science from Colorado State University, where he also completed coursework and research for a master's degree in meat science. He managed the CSU Meat Lab for four years, and then ran several private retail meat shops and custom processing plants in

Colorado. Carpenter was active in 4-H livestock judging, and competed on the CSU inter-collegiate meat judging and meat animal evaluation teams.

Travis Choat is originally from Enid, Okla., and holds bachelor's and master's degrees in animal science from Oklahoma State University, and a Ph.D. in meat science from Colorado State University.

He has worked for the Montana Beef Network implementing animal ID systems, for Smithfield Beef Group as food safety manager of commercial beef packing plants, and as technical services director of Elanco Animal Health managing a team of nutritionists and veterinarians. Travis plans to assist with operations at the meat shop as needed.

Tamara Choat is a native of Eastern Montana, and holds a bachelor's degree in agricultural communications/animal science and a master's degree in international agriculture from Oklahoma State University. She worked in marketing and communications for the Montana Stockgrowers Association, Nebraska Grazing Lands Coalition, National FFA Foundation and the National Swine Registry. Tamara will oversee promotion and customer service for the business.

Powder River Meat Company is currently scheduling livestock harvest, as well as filling custom meat orders for special events. Store hours will be Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.-6 p.m., and Saturday from 8 a.m.-noon. The store is located at 109 Logan Ave., in Terry. For more information, visit www.powderrivermeat.com or call 406.635.5559.



Tanner Carpenter fills ground beef orders at Powder River Meat Company in Terry, Mont.



Travis and Tamara Choat and daughter, Karity, and Tanner Carpenter, owners of Powder River Meat Company, will open the doors to their new business, Powder River Meat Company, on Friday, May 31, in Terry, Mont.

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Help Honey Bee Swarms Find a Home

By Ron Zellar

With spring flowers come swarming bees, and Montana beekeepers are glad to help remove them if people find swarms clinging to trees, fences or some other surface.

"A swarm is bees at their most harmless," says Cam Lay, state entomologist with the Montana Department of Agriculture. "Bees sting only in defense of the hive, to protect their home and children, if you will. A swarm has no brood and no home, so they have no reason to sting you."

Lay acknowledges that a swarm can be an intimidating sight. "All of a sudden you've got ten thousand bees sitting on your fence, or on the side of the house. They buzz, and they fly around, and that's outside the experience of most people."

The process begins as new queen bees emerge in a hive, says Diana DeYoung of the department's Glasgow field office. The old queen quits laying eggs and her abdomen gets smaller so she can fly. When the new queens are ready to emerge, the old queen takes part of the colony and flies away.

Swarming bees alight in a temporary location while their "scout bees" search for a more permanent home. That's

usually a cavity in a tree or building, Lay says. Once the scout bees find a good spot, they communicate the distance and direction to the rest of the swarm with a "waggle dance," and lead them off to their new home.

"We still don't know how they decide which group of scout bees to follow," Lay says. "But somehow they make a decision and off they go."

Unless a local beekeeper can get there first. A swarm of bees is a good start to a new colony, says Ian Foley, entomology program manager at the department. There are certainly times when homeless bees are nothing but a pest, such as when they take up residence in exterior walls of a home, but most of the time they are a valuable resource.

Foley has already picked up one swarm this year, he said. "I brushed most of them into a cardboard box," he said, "and then put it on the ground nearby. The rest of them trooped right on in, and I took them home."

The Department of Agriculture maintains a statewide list of beekeepers who are interested in being contacted to recover swarms. Look for the live link on a copy of this article on the department's website: agr.mt.gov or use the detailed address at <http://agr.mt.gov/agr/Programs/Bees/pdf/swarms.pdf>. Readers can also contact the Apiary Program at the Montana Department of Agriculture at 406-444-3144.

4-H Alumni Potluck Set for June 9th

Richland County 4-H Alumni have scheduled a potluck meal at Veteran's Memorial Park in Sidney on Sunday, June 9th, beginning at 5 p.m. The event is being held to welcome home Chris Bengochea, former 4-H member and now a nationally acclaimed opera singer.

Bengochea will be in Sidney to perform at Richland Farm Mutuals 100th Anniversary Celebration at Pella Lutheran Church on Saturday night, June 8th. On Sunday he will be performing a public benefit concert for Foundation for Community Care at 2 p.m. at the Pella Lutheran Church. Guy Salvevol will be performing with Bengochea at both events.

Alumni and families planning to attend are asked to bring a hot dish and either a salad or dessert and lawn chairs. Drinks, plates, napkins and silverware will be provided. For more information, contact Fred Barkley at 406-482-4321 or Doug Hall at 406-488-4996.

Culbertson Frontier Days June 14 & 15

Each spring finds Culbertson playing host to the Saddle Club's Frontier Days. With the help of the Chamber of Commerce, two full days of western hospitality and fun includes rodeos in the Saddle Club's unique tiered rodeo grounds, a parade on Saturday, a barn dance and concessions on the grounds. Contact Luke Anderson at 406-787-5860 or Ken at 406-798-3712 for more information or to register for the rodeo.



Pesticide Expert Offers Tips To Reduce Nontarget Injury When Spraying Noxious Weeds

Submitted by MSU News Service

Montanans who plan to spray noxious weeds this spring should take preliminary steps when spraying to reduce nontarget injury toward nearby sensitive crops, aquatic areas, trees and/or ornamentals, says Montana State University Pesticide Education Specialist Cecil Tharp.

That means even before calibrating their sprayers applicators should inspect their equipment for leaks, rust, plugged lines and ruptured seals. They should also select the appropriate nozzles for the job. Low-drift nozzles will minimize the amount of pesticide droplets that can be carried off-site by the wind.

Many herbicides target broadleaf weeds such as leafy spurge and spotted knapweed, but they can also damage alfalfa and other pulse crops, such as peas and lentils, Tharp said. It isn't uncommon for herbicide drift to be implicated in the injury of nearby trees, vegetables and ornamentals.

Many people are still using standard or extended range flat fan nozzle technologies from the 1980s, which produce small droplets that drift easily, Tharp said. Small droplets drift farther than larger, heavier droplets. Nozzle technology from the 1990s which includes turbulence chambers and air induction designs produces larger droplets.

"These nozzles (turbulence chamber and air induction designs) reduce pesticide drift from 50 to 75 percent when compared to the extended range or older flat fans," Tharp said.

Wind can carry pesticides where they shouldn't be, but a 2009 poll showed that a large percentage of Montanans have sprayed even though they knew it was too windy, Tharp said. Approximately one in three private applicators surveyed indicated that drift had damaged nearby sensitive crops at some point in their career.

If the wind is greater than 10 mph, Tharp suggests waiting to spray. Applicators may wish to buy an anemometer if they want a reliable way to tell how fast the wind is blowing. Tharp recommended, too, that applicators consider spraying the first hour or two after sunrise when the wind tends to be calmer. If they can't finish during those hours, they can continue the next morning.

Applicators should also calibrate their equipment every year to ensure that the amount of pesticide solution the sprayer delivers equals the output required on the pesticide product label, Tharp said. He noted that the sprayer output doesn't refer to the pesticide alone, but the total water/pesticide solution. By calibrating sprayer output, applicators can easily determine how much pesti-

cide product to add to spray tanks.

The calibration process doesn't have to be overwhelming, Tharp said. For shortcuts that minimize the math involved, applicators can refer to MontGuides produced by MSU Extension or go online. One of his articles, titled "Calibrating Ground Sprayers Using Shortcut Methods," is available at <http://www.pesticides.montana.edu/Reference/ShortcutMethods.pdf>

For details on selecting drift-reducing nozzles, go to <http://www.pesticides.montana.edu/Reference/SelectingNozzels.pdf>

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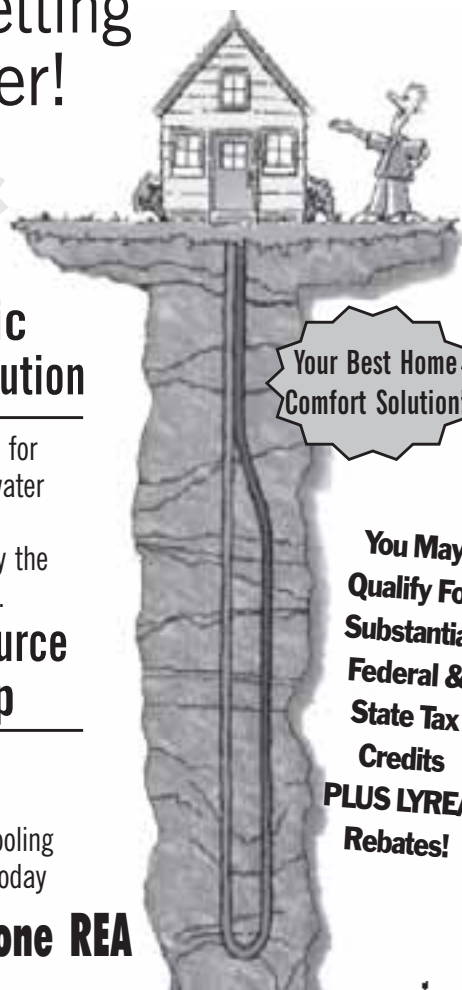
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Living Ag Classroom Is A Hit With Local Elementary And Middle School Students



By Tie Shank

Many people believe the best way to teach others about the important role agriculture plays in each of our lives is through education. Williston State College Ag department held a "Living Ag Classroom" for Williston elementary and middle school students - giving the students the opportunity to attend different presentations showcasing various careers in agriculture.

Each program of study at WSC set up presentations for the students. The Ag department set up a rotation with five different stations giving students the chance to interact with each of them:

1) Justin Jacobs managed a station where students could plant their own bean seed.

2) Ross Meusel and Stephanie Persson allowed students to handle and learn about week old chicks.

3) Kayla Crooker, Chase Usselman and Melissa Clark were in charge of two bottle calves and allowed students to pet and learn fun tidbits on them.

4) Zach Sundheim and Amy Jore showcased Amy's quarter horse and educated the students about the care and management of horses.

5) Duaine Johnson and Tim Hendrickson taught the students about the John Deere tractor that Gooseneck Implement graciously allowed them to use for the event.

President Kayla Crooker stated, "Overall many students were thrilled to be there and enjoyed the experiences."

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