

THE MARKET BULLETIN

“TELLING THE STORY OF WEST VIRGINIA AGRICULTURE”

KENT A. LEONHARDT, COMMISSIONER

www.agriculture.wv.gov

JOSEPH L. HATTON, DEPUTY COMMISSIONER



HPAI AND ME

MARCH 2025 | VOLUME 109, NO. 3

Assistant State Veterinarian Dr. Erika Alt (right) says samples of potential HPAI are tested at the WVDA Moorefield lab by certified lab technicians like Microbiologist III Tara Markwell (left). The Moorefield lab is a NAHLN member.



Why did the chicken cross the road? That used to be the biggest poultry question we Americans had to ponder. But since 2022 and the latest outbreak of Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) began to sweep the agriculture industry, we've all had to stop and think about the safety of our animals, the food on our plates, and our own health. With spring just a few short weeks away and the northern bird migration not too far behind, a lot of people are wondering - How does HPAI impact me? We went straight to WVDA Assistant State Veterinarian Dr. Erika Alt who oversees the Department's Moorefield laboratories where testing for HPAI takes place. She tackles the HPAI questions you've been asking.

What is HPAI and where did it come from?

Avian Influenza (AI) is a contagious viral disease that affects wild and domestic birds. There are many different types of AI that are naturally occurring. They circulate in the wild bird population. Historically, highly pathogenic viruses (HP) were limited to poultry. However, since the early 2000's we've seen a shift. Those viruses are now circulating in the wild bird populations, as well. The particular strain of HPAI that we're seeing right now, H5N1, has been circulating since 2022. The first case in the

U.S. was detected in a commercial flock of turkeys in Indiana. Since then, nearly every state has seen HPAI outbreaks in commercial and backyard flocks.

How many cases of HPAI have been detected in West Virginia?

West Virginia has been very fortunate. We are one of only 15 states that have not had HPAI in our commercial flocks. Poultry is West Virginia's number one agriculture industry, with an annual value of production of \$424 million. An HPAI outbreak in a commercial flock would be devastating. So, we are very fortunate in that aspect. West Virginia didn't experience our first positive case of HPAI until February of 2024, which was a backyard flock. It was the perfect storm. The farm was near a stream where wild waterfowl visited. When the owners fed their own waterfowl that they had domesticated, there was some co-mingling going on, and unfortunately, the domesticated birds contracted HPAI from the wild birds. Fast forward to January of this year, we had another positive case in a backyard flock in Pocahontas County.

I have poultry/a backyard flock. How do I protect them from HPAI?

Biosecurity is the key to protecting your flock! HPAI is passed by direct contact from bird to bird, and infected birds can shed

avian influenza A viruses in their saliva, nasal secretions, and feces. If you can, keep your birds indoors. Minimize their exposure to wild birds. The other side of it is people can also spread HPAI through contaminated surfaces or materials. If your boots aren't clean and you go from one farm to another, you can take the virus with you. Same with your truck tires. You can carry it from one place to the next. The way to think about it is you are preventing germs from spreading. You don't want to take any germs on to a farm, and you don't want to take germs off that farm. Here at the Department, a lot of times we wear personal protective equipment, or PPE. At the basic level, if you're not going to interact with animals, and you're just going to be on a farm walking around, you may only need boot covers. If you're going to be with animals and they're not sick, you may want to put coveralls on and gloves. However, if you're going to a farm where a disease is suspected, that's where we are going to take every precaution. We suit up in Tyvek coveralls that are disposable. We also wear gloves, a face mask, a head covering, and goggles. We want to make sure we don't take this disease off the farm. When we leave that farm, all that PPE gets taken off in a certain way so that we're not spreading disease onto our street clothes.

The PPE is disposable and is left at the farm. Our boots are disinfected. Our tires are disinfected. Everything is very carefully looked at so that we're not taking anything off the farm. When we leave that farm, we go through a car wash to make sure the undercarriages of our vehicles are clean, too. For more biosecurity tips, go to the USDA's Defend the Flock's Resource Center (<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/livestock-poultry-disease/avian/defend-the-flock/resources>).

FROM THE COMMISSIONER:

Strengthening West Virginia Agriculture: Priorities for Growth, Investment, and Innovation



With a new Governor and legislature, we have the opportunity to look at the opportunities and challenges ahead for agriculture. This time of year not only marks the opening of the legislative session but also offers a fresh opportunity to advance initiatives supporting our farmers and agribusinesses. West Virginia's agricultural industry is vital to our economy, and I am committed to working closely with lawmakers, stakeholders, and all those involved in this essential sector to ensure we continue to grow and build a prosperous future for our rural communities.

To support these initiatives, the West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA) has prioritized several key funding requests for this year. These include investments in critical infrastructure, public health programs, and workforce development. Notably, the requests aim to modernize laboratory facilities at the Guthrie Agricultural Complex, fund the WV Grown and SNAPStretch programs, and support the Fresh Food Act. Additionally, funding is requested for training veterinary technicians, through the VetStart Program, in conjunction with WVU and WV State. This program addresses the critical shortage of veterinary technicians, particularly for livestock producers, by utilizing WVDA veterinarians and resources to train students in biosecurity, disease prevention, and animal health management.

One of the most pressing requests is for a new laboratory facility at the Guthrie Agricultural

Complex. The current lab infrastructure is outdated, which leads to higher operational costs, increased maintenance, and potential compliance issues with evolving food safety regulations. A new, modern facility would enhance testing capabilities for livestock diseases, food safety, and environmental hazards, ensuring that West Virginia's agricultural products remain safe, competitive, and in line with federal standards.

The WV Grown branding program directly connects West Virginians to local agricultural producers. Expanding this program will not only boost our local economy but also promote healthier diets by reducing processed foods and shortening the distance from farm to table. The Program already supports many agribusinesses across the state, and with dedicated funding, we can increase its reach and impact, improving economic and social outcomes for our rural communities. Now is the time to put real dollars behind this program and ensure our farmers, producers, and communities reap the benefits.

The WVDA has a historic and valued relationship with West Virginia fairs and festivals which I wrote about in my January Market Bulletin column. However, funding for these events is currently under the Division of Culture and History. We are asking that this funding be moved back to the WVDA (where it was for many years) so that we can continue to support them in the most efficient way possible.

In addition to funding requests, we are focused on regulatory measures to further support our farmers.

This includes advocating for a dairy toll exemption, allowing milk-hauling trucks to bypass tolls, and continuing our efforts to strengthen the right to farm. These actions will ensure that the WVDA has the necessary authority to protect and support farmers under the law.

As West Virginia's agriculture industry continues to evolve, we recognize the importance of a skilled and dedicated workforce. In February, we celebrated National FFA Week, which highlights the incredible leadership and educational opportunities available to students through FFA. Agricultural education is the fastest-growing Career and Technical Education (CTE) program in West Virginia, and membership in FFA is expected to reach 8,000 students across 87 chapters in 2025. This growth is a testament to the hard work of our educators and the enthusiasm of our students, who are embracing career opportunities in agriculture, science, and business.

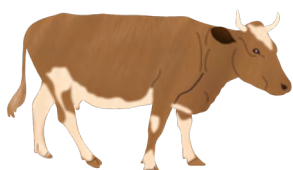
FFA is more than just an organization, it's a leadership incubator that prepares young people for careers in agriculture and beyond. Many of our state's agriculture educators, business leaders, and policymakers began their journey in an FFA classroom. The program instills work ethic, responsibility, and leadership, qualities that will benefit West Virginia for years to come. If you get a chance, support these young men and women in your community.

Kent Leonhardt, Commissioner of Agriculture

ANIMAL HEALTH BULLETIN: Secure Food Supply Plans

Secure Food Supply Plans are designed to provide guidance for livestock producers to voluntarily prepare to limit exposure of their animals through enhanced biosecurity, in the event of a foreign animal disease (FAD) outbreak. Examples of foreign animal diseases include Foot and Mouth Disease, Classical Swine Fever, and African Swine Fever. During an outbreak, producers who have a Secure Food Supply Plan and whose animals show no evidence of disease, may qualify for a movement permit which enables continuity of business for the livestock industry. Several factors are considered when developing the plans and are adapted to the unique disease agent, industry, and/or commodity in question. Some of these factors include risk assessment of disease transmission, surveillance/testing requirements, biosecurity recommendations, cleaning and disinfection procedures, premises location, animal information (number, species, age), and movement guidelines. Plan templates have been developed for beef, pork, milk, sheep and wool, and poultry.

The main goals of Secure Food Supply Plans are: 1) avoid interruptions in animal and animal product movement to commercial processing from premises with no evidence of FAD infection; 2) provide a continuous supply of wholesome food to consumers; 3) maintain business continuity for producers, transporters, and food processors through response planning.



If you are interested in having a Secure Food Supply Plan developed for your operation, please call the West Virginia Department of Agriculture at 304-538-2397.

Resources:
Secure Food Supply Plans - CFSPH
<https://www.aphis.usda.gov/>

SEE A
POTENTIAL
INVASIVE
PEST?

Send us a photo of the pest with your name and contact info to bugbusters@wvda.us or call 304-558-2212.



Be on the lookout for
Spotted Lanternfly!

HPAI and Me, Cont. from page 1**What are the signs of HPAI?**

You may notice a drop in egg production. That can be the first sign. Some folks can see respiratory signs such as swollen eyes, combs, and wattles. Birds can also have a cough, nasal discharge, or sneezing. When it comes to HPAI, it is very contagious. It creates high mortality, high morbidity. Sometimes sudden death of a bird or birds is the first sign you'll see. Say you have 20 chickens. You may lose three or four in one day and several more the next day.

If I see these signs, what should I do?

If you are concerned about sick or dying birds, call our Charleston office at 304-558-2214 even after business hours.

How does the WVDA determine if there is a positive case of HPAI?

Once we get a call from a farmer or a poultry house about a sick bird/birds, even if it's just a suspicion, our Animal Health technicians go to that farm and collect samples. Swabs from the inside of a bird's mouth are taken and placed inside a sealed tube. The farmer is issued a verbal quarantine order to not move anything off the farm and the technician talks about the importance of biosecurity. The samples are then taken to our WVDA National Animal Health Lab Network (NAHLN) in Moorefield where they are handed off to our laboratory technicians. They run polymerase chain reaction (PCR) molecular testing. They're looking for the genetic material that makes up Avian Influenza. They'll extract that first with our magnetic particle processors, which is then run on thermocyclers. Thermocyclers amplify any DNA or genetic material within that sample, so the



virus can be detected. If the sample is positive, we send it to the National Veterinary Services Laboratory (NVSL), but at that point, we can act on our results because the Moorefield lab is an activated NAHLN member. From there, a lot of phone calls need to be made between our folks at the WVDA and our federal and state partners. But one of our first phone calls is to the owner of the birds to tell them what is going on, that the tests came back positive, and the farm is officially under quarantine. In most cases, the birds, both sick and healthy, will have to be culled. The area must be cleaned and disinfected. There is an awful lot of paperwork to do when documenting an HPAI case in West Virginia. In order for the farm/poultry house to once again have birds, that area, or zone, has to be "released," meaning it is disease-free and safe for poultry to return. Sometimes that can happen in as little as 28 days, but each outbreak is handled on a case-by-case basis.

We have heard of dairy cows being infected with HPAI. Is milk safe to drink?

Thankfully, here in West Virginia, we have not had any detections of HPAI in mammals, including dairy cows. In fact, there have only been two detections of dairy cows with the virus in the eastern United States (Ohio and North Carolina) and that was from cows who

had traveled from other places. So, I think our risk to West Virginia is extremely low. However, if someone has dairy cows and is concerned, we want to hear about it. They can call the Department, and we will investigate. If we find HPAI in the West Virginia dairy cow population, the cows in that herd would be quarantined. Meanwhile, for anyone worried about drinking milk because of HPAI, there is no reason for concern. Even if milk from a cow who is infected with HPAI is collected, once that milk is pasteurized, it is safe to drink. There is absolutely no risk to humans. So, there's nothing to worry about with pasteurized milk.

Can humans get the HPAI virus?

The simple answer is yes. HPAI can spread from animals to humans, especially those folks who are interacting with sick birds and sick poultry. There have been around 67 cases across the U.S. since 2022 with humans contracting the virus. Most of those have been exposed to either a sick bird or a sick mammal. There has only been one case where the origin of the virus is unknown, but a wild bird is suspected. To date, there has not been any documented cases of human-to-human transmission. This particular virus will have to undergo some changes in order for that to happen. According to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC), there is a low risk to the public from this strain that's currently circulating. However, the virus is being closely monitored on a national and international level. The WVDA will keep you updated on any changes to the virus that impacts the health of you or your animals. If you have any questions about HPAI and your animals, contact the WVDA Animal Health Division at 304-558-2214.

Cedar Lakes Craft Workshops



Cedar Lakes Craft Workshops are back for another great year of fun and learning. The Folk Art at the Lakes program offers a large selection of instructional learning opportunities for crafts, music, and art. Classes start at \$159 (weekend) and \$254.40 (weeklong). Lodging, meals, and class packages are available. To view all price options, download the catalog, or apply for a craft class, please visit www.cedarlakes.com/craft-workshops/. Cedar Lakes Conference Center is owned and operated by the West Virginia Department of Agriculture.

MARCH 24-28

- Autoharp – Tish Westman
- Old Time Fiddle – Dave Bing
- Quilting – Jackie Milliken
- Ribbed Baskets – Debbie Martzall
- Stained Glass – Stephanie Danz
- Woodturning – Harry Newman

APRIL 7-11

- Creative Writing – Colleen Anderson
- Needle Felting – Debbie Martzall
- Quilting – Judy Lilly
- Stained Glass – Stephanie Danz
- Watercolors – Debbie Lester
- Woodcarving – Bob Barris
- Woodturning – Larry Weese

MAY 5-9

- Basketry – Elaine Sinclair
- Blacksmithing – Michael Young
- Quilting – Kathy Saunders
- Soft Soldering Jewelry – Stephanie Danz
- Woodturning – Larry Weese

BOWED PSALTERY SYMPHONY

- May 8th – Symphony at Assembly Hall

WHAT'S COOKIN'?

Sticky Sweet (and Good to Eat)!

West Virginia's maple syrup industry continues to grow. What was once just a few men and women collecting sap in buckets and boiling that sweet water on their kitchen stoves to make maple syrup for their own table has turned into a complex business model. Now maple makers are tapping hundreds, if not thousands of trees, using 5/16 tubing that runs on gravity to a collection point downhill where it's boiled to a precise temperature using high-tech equipment like reverse osmosis machines. Whether our maple makers bottle one gallon or 1,000, the product remains the same - pure West Virginia maple syrup. You'll need the good stuff, West Virginia maple syrup, for all the recipes this month! If you have a recipe you'd like to share with us, send it to marketbulletin@wvda.us.



Maple Roast Chicken with Apples and Cranberries

- 4 medium bone-in chicken thighs (1 1/2 lbs.)
- 1 tbsp. butter
- 1 tbsp. olive oil
- 3 medium apples, peeled, cored, and sliced in 1/4-inch thick slices
- 1 cup fresh cranberries
- 3 sprigs fresh rosemary
- Salt and pepper to taste

Maple Glaze Ingredients:

- 1 tbsp. olive oil
- 1 garlic clove, minced
- 3 tbsp. balsamic vinegar
- 1/4 cup maple syrup
- Salt and pepper to taste

Step 1

Preheat oven to 375-degrees. Season chicken on both sides with salt and pepper. Heat butter and olive oil in a medium skillet over medium-high heat until pan is hot. Sear chicken 2-3 minutes on both sides.

Step 2

Remove pan from heat and arrange apples, cranberries and rosemary springs around chicken. Put the chicken in the oven for 25-30 minutes.

Step 3

While the chicken bakes, make the sauce in a small skillet over medium-high heat. Add the olive oil to skillet and saute garlic 1 minute until just fragrant. Stir in vinegar and add maple syrup. Bring sauce to a boil. Reduce heat to medium-low, and let simmer until reduced and thickened, about 5 minutes. Season sauce with salt and pepper to taste.

Step 4

Once the chicken registers 165-degrees at its center, apples are tender and the cranberries are bursting, drizzle the maple sauce over the chicken and serve.



MARCH 2025

Maple Walnut Bars

Base:

- 1/2 cup salted butter, softened
- 1/4 cup brown sugar
- 1 cup all-purpose flour

Topping:

- 1 cup maple syrup
- 3/4 cup brown sugar
- 1/2 cup walnuts, chopped
- 1/4 cup salted butter
- 2 large eggs
- 2 tbsp. all-purpose flour
- Pinch of salt

Step 1

Preheat oven to 350-degrees. Combine butter, brown sugar, and flour for base. Stir until the mixture is crumbly. Press mixture into an 8-inch greased baking pan. Bake for 10 minutes. Remove and set aside.

Step 2

In a saucepan, combine the maple syrup, brown sugar, and walnut, for the topping, and bring to a boil. Reduce heat and cook over a medium-low heat for 5 minutes. Remove from heat and add butter. Stir until melted.

Step 3

In a bowl, beat the eggs with the flour and salt. Add egg mixture to the maple syrup mixture and stir to combine. Pour over the base and bake for 25-30 minutes, or until set. Cool completely before cutting.



Maple Syrup Popcorn

- 6 cups air popped popcorn
- 1/2 cup maple syrup
- 2 tbsp. butter (substitute coconut oil for vegan recipe)
- Sea salt

Step 1

Put popcorn in a large bowl and set aside. Pour maple syrup and butter in a non-stick pot on the stove over medium heat. Melt butter and syrup together to the soft crack stage (270-degrees), whisking occasionally. (The "caramel sauce" will get bubbly)

Step 2

After heating, quickly stir the maple mixture into the popcorn. It's important to work quickly because it hardens fast! However, be careful because it is extremely hot.

Step 3

Spread the maple syrup popcorn out on a large sheet of parchment paper in a single layer. Sprinkle with sea salt, if desired. Let it dry and harden for about 10 minutes, then break into pieces and enjoy!

2025 National FFA Week



Assistant Commissioner Amie Minor (far left) and Deputy Commissioner Joe Hatton (far right) visit with members of the Hundred High School FFA floriculture class during National FFA Week.

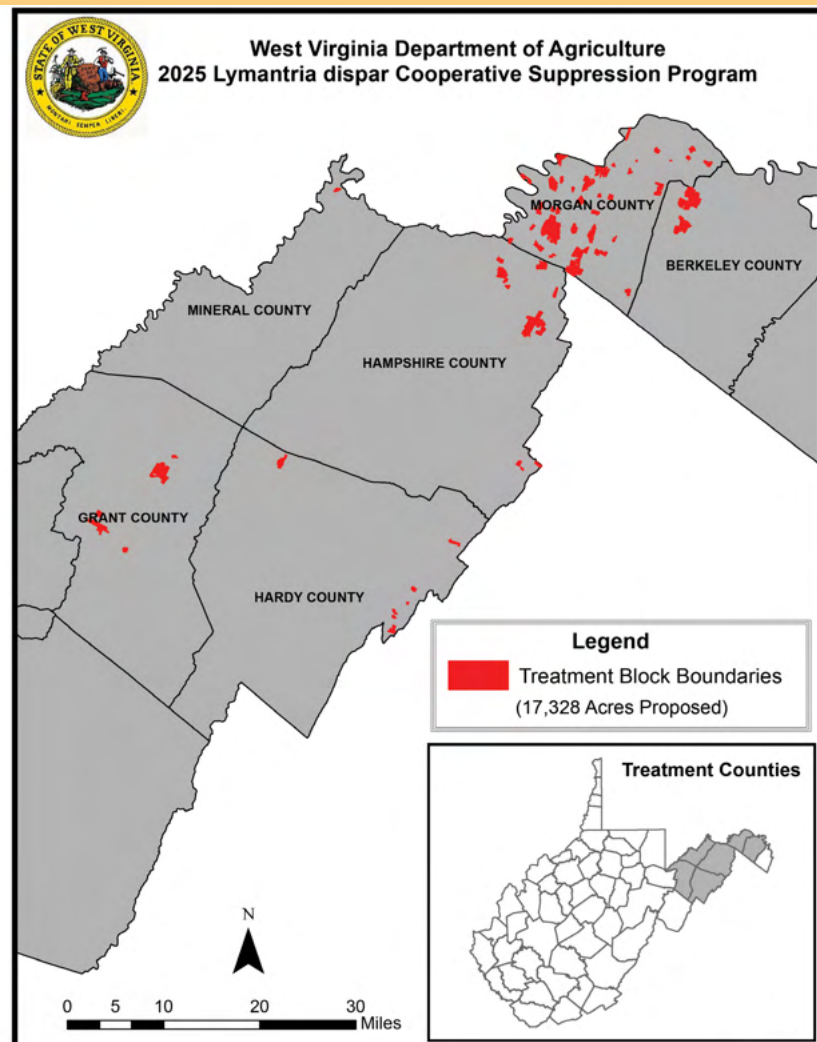
West Virginia’s FFA membership numbers keep climbing. The official 2025/2026 numbers aren’t in just yet, but West Virginia

State FFA Advisor Kari Brown predicts the organization will hit 8,000 members at some point this year. That was a highlight of National FFA Week, February 15-22, for Commissioner of Agriculture Kent Leonhardt.

“These young men and women wearing their blue jackets truly are the future farmers of our state. They’re also our future scientists, agribusiness owners, agriculture educators, Extension agents, veterinarians, and a host of other agriculture-related professionals. It is a joy for me and my executive team to visit FFA chapters across West Virginia during National FFA week to see what they’re accomplishing together and as individuals. I am always inspired by their work ethic, energy, and passion for agriculture,” stressed Leonhardt.

The Commissioner, Deputy Commissioner Joe Hatton, Chief of Staff Norm Bailey and Assistant Commissioner Amie Minor visited Roane County, Hundred, Buffalo, Barboursville Middle, Bridgeport and Jefferson FFA chapters during National FFA Week.

WVDA PROPOSES LYMANTRIA DISPAR TREATMENTS FOR SPRING 2025



The West Virginia Department of Agriculture (WVDA) is proposing aerial treatment of approximately 17,328 acres for the purpose of reducing significant defoliation to forested lands within Berkeley, Grant, Hampshire, Hardy, Mineral, and Morgan Counties caused by the Lymantria dispar (spongy moth/aka gypsy moth). In 2024, more than 141,000 acres of forested land were defoliated in West Virginia by this invasive pest.

Treatment areas will be evaluated by the WV Division of Natural Resources Wildlife Resources and U.S. Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service as required for Threatened and Endangered Species with no anticipated findings, as in previous years.

The WVDA will immediately begin soliciting public comments on the areas proposed for treatment (see map). Any comments, concerns, or interest in this proposed project should be submitted in writing to Scott Hoffman or Jeff Johnson, P.O. Box 9, New Creek, WV 26743 or via e-mail to ghoffman@wvda.us or jjohnson@wvda.us no later than April 1, 2025.



West Virginia Grown

Rooted in the Mountain State



WV Grown has been around since 1986. In the past 39 years, the program has helped thousands of West Virginia agribusinesses market their products to customers here at home, across the country, and even around the world. That remains our mission today. Whether you raise cattle or grow cucumbers, West Virginians take great pride in the products that come from their land. When people see a WV Grown logo on a product, buyers can be assured it was grown or processed, with quality ingredients, right here in the Mountain State. For every WV Grown product sold, that's money that goes back into our local economy. Buying WV Grown just makes sense/cents.

With more than 600 members, retail partners, and supporting businesses, we hope you'll take time to browse through our WV Grown Directory (<https://agriculture.wv.gov/ag-business/west-virginia-grown/>). If you want to become a member of WV Grown, contact our Business Development Division at 304-558-2210 or email wvgrown@wvda.us.

The Public Market

Who: Jason Koegler, Exec. Director Grow Ohio Valley
Location: 1401 Main Street, Wheeling
Products: fresh fruits and vegetables, value-added products, meat, healthy food products

How they got started:
 Grow Ohio Valley (GOV) is a non-profit, and we operate The Public Market under our umbrella. In 2019, GOV received a \$2 million Appalachian Regional Commission (ARC) Power Grant which provided the seed money to create The Public Market. We're an indoor farmers market that sells fresh fruits and vegetables, value-added products, meats, and healthy foods. About 30% of our products come from local farmers/producers in the tri-state area (WV/PA/OH). One of the big drivers is we accept SNAP (Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program), and we have a private foundation that matches our SNAP sales one-to-one. We can offer our products to SNAP customers for 50% off.

Future plans:
 Before The Public Market opened, downtown Wheeling was a certified food desert. If you didn't have access to transportation, your only food options were a couple of convenience stores. That was one of the main selling points in us receiving the ARC Power Grant, that we were an underserved area. Now, people who live in downtown Wheeling can walk to The Public Market. They have access to fresh, local food. We want to continue to grow the market and spread the word about the importance of local food and how it's an economic and health driver. We do a lot of events around local food and health.

Why join West Virginia Grown?
 Well, why not? It's an awesome program! WV Grown helps promote The Public Market. Some of our farmers and producers whose products we feature here at the market are members of WV Grown, as well. We have customers who come in specifically to purchase local foods.

NORTHERN REGION



**Northern/
 Technical Lead
 Planning Coordinator**
 (office) 304-558-2210
 (cell) 304-546-9167
kgantzer@wvda.us

If you're thinking about starting an agribusiness or expanding the one you have, Kacey is an invaluable asset. She has years of experience guiding farmers/producers through the paperwork, what training they need, and the inevitable bumps in the road. Reach out. She's a phone call/email away.

In the News



Wheeling Park High School will be adding a new course to its agriculture program in the fall of 2025. FFA Advisor Ethan Bloomfield applied for and received a scholarship to help fund a Curriculum for Agriculture Science Education (CASE) Principals of Ag Science – Animal. Bloomfield was one of 64 ag instructors across the country to receive the CASE Institute Scholarship.

If you're a member of **The Public Market**, in Wheeling, you're eligible for Member Discount Days! The last Friday of every month, members receive 15% off everything in the store. Public Market is also happy to welcome some new members: Living Stones Culture, Klatt Family Farm, Dunnage LLC, Pritha Canuto, and Wren & Wylde. Check out their products the next time you visit the store.



For More Information:

📞 304-558-2210 🌐 <https://agriculture.wv.gov/ag-business/west-virginia-grown/>
 ✉️ wvgrown@wvda.us



Vets and Heroes to Ag Pitch Competition Set for March 15

With \$60,000 in grant money up for grabs, this year's West Virginia Veterans and Heroes to Agriculture Pitch Competition will showcase some of the most innovative agriculture entrepreneurs from across the state, and you won't want to miss it. The third annual event takes place March 15 at Cedar Lakes Conference Center near Ripley, from noon - 4 p.m. Commissioner Kent Leonhardt invites the public to join the audience while the seven finalists deliver their pitches to the judges in a "Shark Tank-style" competition.

"These men and women have not only served their country or are still serving in our armed services or as first responders, now they're serving our state by producing food, fiber, and other agriculture products right here at home. This pitch competition gives them a chance to vie for funds to start or scale up their agribusiness. I can't wait to hear their business plans and how they would use the funds to further their agriculture dreams," said Leonhardt.

During last year's Pitch Competition, all eight finalists walked away with funding for their farms. The top three received full funding for their projects.

Each finalist has the opportunity to work with a mentor who helps coach them on the best way to present



themselves and their business to the judges for the in-person pitch. It also allows them to grow the skills they need to present themselves to future clients and investors.

The West Virginia Veterans and Heroes to Agriculture Program was established in 2014.

If you're interested in joining, go to: <https://agriculture.wv.gov/ag-business/veterans-and-heroes-to-agriculture/>.

Wardensville Bull Test Sale

March 27, 2025 | Sale begins at noon

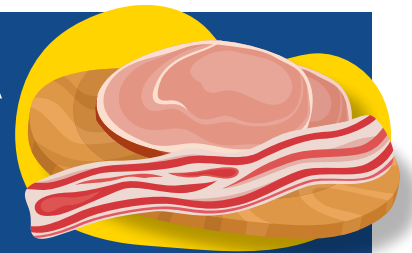
Reymann Memorial Farm at
Wardensville, WV

Bidders can sign up any time prior to the start of the sale. Approximately 100 bulls for sale, including: Angus, Hereford, Charolais, Simmental and Sem/Angus

For more info:

www.facebook.com/WardensvilleBullTest

WV FFA Ham, Bacon and Egg Show/Sale



March 10th | 6:00pm

Assembly Hall at Cedar
Lakes Conference Center, Ripley

Come out and support our
WV FFA members!

WEST VIRGINIA FEEDER CATTLE & CALF SALES

2025 SPRING SCHEDULE

SPONSORED BY: WEST VIRGINIA LIVESTOCK AUCTION MARKETS

WEST VIRGINIA CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION | WEST VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Buckhannon Stockyards							
Phone #304-472-5300							
Date	Time	Est. Head	Graded	Farmer Groups	Yearlings		
3/25/2025	9:00 AM	300	Y	Y	Yearlings		
4/15/2025	9:00 AM	450	Y	Y	Yearlings		
Farmer Graded Groups Every Wednesday during March, April & May							
Back To The Farm Sale							
4/26/2025	6:00 PM	50	1st Calf Heifers w/Calves By Side - Closed Consignment				
5/7/2025	2:00 PM	100	Bred Cow, Cow/Calf Special Sale				
Jackson County Regional Livestock Market							
Phone #304-373-1269							
Date	Time	Est. Head	Graded	Farmer Groups	Yearlings		
3/1/2025	11:00 AM			Y	Yearlings		
3/8/2025	11:00 AM			Y	Yearlings	Feeder/Video Special	
3/15/2025	11:00 AM			Y	Yearlings		
3/21/2025	6:00 PM			Y	Yearlings	WV Test Bull Sale	
3/22/2025	6:00 PM			Y	Yearlings	Feeder/Video Special	
3/29/2025	6:00 PM			Y	Yearlings		
4/5/2025	6:00 PM			Y	Yearlings		
4/12/2025	6:00 PM			Y	Yearlings	Feeder/Video Special	
4/18/2025	6:00 PM			Y	Yearlings	Bred Cow Sale	
4/19/2025	6:00 PM			Y	Yearlings		
4/26/2025	6:00 PM			Y	Yearlings	Feeder/Video Special	
5/1/2025	6:00 PM					Sheep & Goat Special Sale	
5/3/2025				Y	Yearlings		
5/10/2025				Y	Yearlings	Feeder/Video Special	
5/17/2025				Y	Yearlings		
5/23/2025	6:00 PM			Y	Yearlings	Bred Cow Sale	
5/24/2025				Y	Yearlings		
5/31/2025				Y	Yearlings	Feeder/Video Special	
6/7/2025				Y	Yearlings		
6/14/2025				Y	Yearlings	Feeder/Video Special	
6/21/2025				Y	Yearlings		
6/28/2025				Y	Yearlings		
Pocohontas Co-op							
Phone #304-799-6593							
Date	Time	Est. Head	Graded	Farmer Groups	Yearlings		
3/22/2025	2:00 PM						
4/11/2025	7:00 PM		Y			Special Graded Sale	
4/12/2025	2:00 PM						
5/17/2025	2:00 PM						
6/14/2025	2:00 PM						

Additional sale dates and locations will be updated on the WVDA website and in future Market Bulletins as information becomes available.

<https://agriculture.wv.gov/divisions/animal-health/market-news/>

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

DUANE BISHOFF
 WV DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE
 1900 KANAWHA BLVD. E.
 CHARLESTON, WV 25305
 304-288-7806

KEVIN S. SHAFFER, PH. D.
 WV CATTLEMEN'S ASSOCIATION
 62 FARM BUREAU RD
 BUCKHANNON, WV 26201



Preston Farmers Market							
Phone #304-789-2788							
	Date	Time	Est. Head	Graded	Farmer Groups	Yearlings	
	4/18/2025	2:00 PM	400	Y	Y	Yearlings	
	5/2/2025	2:00 PM	100		Special Bred Cow/Cow Calf Sale		
Mountaineer Genetic Alliance Bull/Heifer Sale - Kinsey & Shriver Family @ Preston Farmers' Market							
Contact: Dave Shriver @ (304) 677-7850							
	4/5/2025	6:30 PM			Mountaineer Genetic Alliance Sale		
South Branch Valley Livestock Market							
Phone #304-538-6050							
	Date	Time	Est. Head	Graded	Farmer Groups	Yearlings	
	4/5/2025	10:00 AM	1,000	Y	Y	Yearlings	
	4/12/2025	10:00 AM	2,000	Y	Y	Yearlings	
	4/19/2025	10:00 AM	2,000	Y	Y	Yearlings	
	4/26/2025	10:00 AM	500	Y	Y	Yearlings	
Rudolph Angus							
Yellow Springs, WV							
Contact: Jeremy Rudolph @ (540) 550-0063							
	3/1/2025	12:00 PM			Bull & Heifer Sale		
Genetic Alliance Bull Sale							
Pendleton Community Building, Franklin, WV							
Contacts: John McCoy (304)668-1751 Terri McCoy (304)668-1752							
Tom Simmons (304)668-0647 Tammy Simmons (540)820-6226							
	3/8/2025	1:00 PM			Bull Sale		
Fairview Farms 19th Annual Bull Sale @ SBV Livestock Market							
Contact: Mitch Moran @ (304)668-3998							
	3/15/2025	1:00 PM			Bull Sale		
Weston Livestock Market							
Phone # 304-269-5096							
	Date	Time	Est. Head	Graded	Farmer Groups	Yearlings	
	3/8/2025	1:00 PM			Y	Yearlings	
	3/22/2025	1:00 PM			Y	Yearlings	
	4/5/2025	1:00 PM			Y	Yearlings	
	4/8/2025	1:00 PM			Y	Yearlings	
	4/12/2025	3:00 PM			Bull Sale		
	4/12/2025	4:00 PM			Bred Cow Sale		
	4/26/2025	1:00 PM			Y	Yearlings	
	5/10/2025	4:00 PM			Bred Cow Sale		
	5/17/2025	3:00 PM			Bull Sale		
Sheep and Goat Special Sales							
	Date	Time			Date	Time	
	3/1/2025	12:00 PM			5/3/2025	12:00 PM	
	4/5/2025	12:00 PM			6/7/2025	12:00 PM	

Future Farmers of America



FFA Career Development Award Winners

KARI BROWN - STATE FFA ADVISOR

The West Virginia FFA Association held their Fall Career Development events on the campus of West Virginia University in September and December. More than 1,000 students from all across the state took part. Through Career and Leadership Development events, FFA members, in grades 7-12, are challenged to develop critical thinking and effective decision-making skills, foster teamwork, and promote communication while recognizing the value of ethical competition and individual achievement. We are very proud of each student that participated in the events and look forward to being very well represented at the 2025 National FFA Convention, October 23-26, in Indianapolis.

Forestry:

Teams – 1st Gilmer/2nd Clay/3rd Roane
Individual – 1st Summer Boone (Gilmer)/2nd Skylar Adkins (Clay)/3rd Hollie Conley (Clay)

Livestock Evaluation:

Teams – 1st Spring Mill/2nd South Harrison/3rd Taylor
Individual – 1st Grant Bolyard (Spring Mill)/2nd Levi Knopp (Ripley)/3rd Delainey Lowther (South Harrison)

Meat Evaluation:

Teams – 1st Magnolia/2nd Tyler/3rd Gilmer
Individual – 1st Damian Lancaster (Magnolia)/2nd Gavin Wood (Magnolia)/3rd Elizabeth Johnson (Magnolia)

Nursery Landscape:

Teams – 1st South Harrison/2nd Magnolia/3rd Roane
Individual – 1st Harlie Wykert (Magnolia)/2nd K.J. Linger (South Harrison)/3rd Nathaniel Linger (South Harrison)

Poultry:

Teams – 1st Roane/2nd Taylor/3rd Pendleton
Individual – 1st Caleb Armentrout (Pendleton)/2nd Tyson Watson (Roane)/3rd Miranda St. Clair (Roane)

Ag. Tech and Mechanical Systems:

Teams – 1st Mason Co. Vo-Tech/2nd Hampshire/3rd Marion
Individual – 1st Japeth Bayes (Wheeling Park)/2nd Austin Rufener (Wheeling Park)/3rd Braxton Blair (Mason Co. Vo-Tech)

Floriculture:

Teams – 1st Roane/2nd Ravenswood/3rd Pine Grove
Individual – 1st Lexi Mitchell (Roane)/2nd Chloe Constantino (Washington)/3rd Anna Hays (Roane)

High School Food Science:

Teams – 1st South Harrison/2nd Clay/3rd Taylor
Individual – 1st Savannah Holden (South Harrison)/2nd Violet Rubenstein (Taylor)/3rd Kensie Walters (Ravenswood)

Middle School Food Science:

Teams – 1st Ravenswood MS/2nd Harpers Ferry MS/3rd Moorefield MS
Individual – 1st Milea Miihlbach (Ravenswood MS)/2nd Abigail Daniel (Harpers Ferry MS)/3rd Wright Akers (Ravenswood MS)

7th/8th Grade Agriscience

Team – 1st Charles Town MS/2nd Harpers Ferry MS/3rd Ripley MS
Individual – 1st Piper Stolipher (Charles Town MS)/2nd Trevor Jefferies (Charles Town MS)/3rd Emma Hill (Ravenswood MS)

Ag Sales:

Teams - 1st Bridgeport/2nd Ripley
Individuals – 1st Tyler Hackney (Bridgeport)/2nd Rebecca Weekley (Ripley)/3rd Andrew Randolph (Bridgeport)

Entomology:

Teams – 1st Roane/2nd Martinsburg/3rd Cabell Midland
Individual – 1st Lucas Hall (Roane)/2nd Joshua Burton (Martinsburg)/3rd Tanner Saunders (Roane)

Farm Business Management:

Teams – 1st Ripley/2nd Magnolia/3rd Roane
Individual – 1st John Francis (Ripley)/2nd Alexis Burdette (Roane)/3rd Bryson Tomlin (Ripley)

Milk Quality & Products:

Teams – 1st Taylor/2nd Roane/3rd Tyler
Individual – 1st Kacie Mace (Roane)/2nd Peyton Freeman (Taylor)/3rd Paetyn McGinnis (Taylor)

Plant Pathology:

Teams – 1st Ripley/2nd Clay/3rd Wirt
Individual – 1st Trent Hinkle (Clay)/2nd Jessica Webb (Ripley)/3rd Veronica Hinzman (Ravenswood)

Veterinary Science:

Teams – 1st Roane/2nd Jefferson/3rd Taylor
Individual – 1st Tyson Watson (Roane)/2nd Allysa Stillwagoner (Magnolia)/3rd McKenzie Nesselroad (Ravenswood)



Recovering from Mud

Ed Rayburn and Tom Basden - WVU Extension



Prolonged periods of unusually wet weather can make it very difficult for farmers across West Virginia. In summer, excessive rain hinders farmers' ability to grow and harvest hay, and in winter, wet conditions make it harder to feed hay, especially if temperatures are above freezing and much of the precipitation comes as rain instead of snow. This results in the destruction of sod and increased mud around feeding areas.

Late winter through early spring is the time to start planning how to revegetate the muddiest areas once cattle have been turned out to pasture in the spring. These winter feeding areas need to be revegetated as soon as possible to prevent soil and soil-fertility loss, provide forage production in the coming summer, reduce soil compaction, and improve soil health for future forage production. Exactly what to do will depend on the degree and extent of damage and the tools available on the farm or within the community, whether that's from neighbors, a local conservation district, or machinery or fertilizer dealers.

Where damage is primarily from hoof treading and the soil surface is relatively smooth, using a chain harrow to work the area when the soil is dry may be sufficient. This will break up light hay clumps on the ground. Hopefully, hay was not fed repeatedly in the same spot. If multiple bales were fed in one area, a front end loader may be needed to remove excess hay and put it where it can be composted for later field application.

Where only a single bale was fed in each spot, the chain harrow will usually open the area sufficiently for seedling establishment across the area. Small areas where seedlings don't establish in the spring will usually have seedlings invade the organic mat later in summer or fall. For these sites, chain harrow the area. Broadcast the desired seeding mix, then chain harrow the area a second time to give some coverage to the seeds.

Where damage includes tire ruts, the ruts may need to be disked out with a heavy field disk. A back blade or dozer blade can be used if a disk is not available. If a blade is used, a light disk, field cultivator, or spring-tooth harrow can be used to work up a seed bed. When the soil is worked up, it is best to firm the soil with a cultipacker, roller, or pulvi-mulcher (with its spring teeth raised up). The seed can then be broadcast, and the soil can be cultipacked a second time. A chain harrow can also be used to cover the seeds lightly, then the soil can be cultipacked.

When additional summer feed is needed, sudangrass or a sorghum-sudangrass hybrid can be planted. It is best to drill these grasses with a conventional or no-till drill, but the seed can be broadcast on a cultivated seedbed, then lightly covered with a chain harrow and cultipacked in. These seeds should be planted no deeper than two to three times the diameter of the seed.

It is recommended that winter feeding areas be rotated around the farm to cycle plant nutrients. However, when only one area is used year after year, use an annual grass seeding to get ground cover and provide some forage. Be careful in a dry year since forage on these sites may accumulate nitrate, which can poison animals. Most of the nitrates are in the lower stems of the plant. If animals eat only the leaves and not the plant stems, intake of nitrates will be minimized.

Both sudangrass and sorghum-sudangrass hybrids produce prussic acid in young growth or frosted growth. On healthy growing forage, graze sudangrass when growth is greater than 18 inches. On sorghum-sudangrass hybrids, growth should achieve a height of 24 to 30 inches. When there is a risk of frost, remove animals from both of these grasses. Once the grass has been killed by frost and is completely dried down, livestock can graze off the dead material without risk of prussic acid poisoning.

Keep livestock off the reseeded winter feeding areas until the seedlings have grown eight to 12 inches tall or 18 to 30 inches tall for sudangrass and sorghum-sudangrass. Test the rooting of the seedlings by grabbing the plants by the leaves and pulling up firmly. If the roots stay in the ground and the leaves tear off the plant, the plants are well enough established to graze. Do not allow animals to graze off more than half the forage or stay on the area for more than seven days, preferably three days. If the area is adequately level, so that the area can be hayed, that provides another option for harvesting the forage.

Repairing winter feeding areas is going to cost some money, so spend wisely. The purchase of a good chain harrow is a wise investment. Use only blue-label certified seed since these varieties will be longer lived and more productive. Farmers should develop a management plan that reduces winter damage, decreasing long-term costs for renovating winter feeding areas. Management practices that help include feeding only one hay bale on a spot of ground a year, placing bales out in early winter and strip grazing the bales with movable electric fence, avoiding using a tractor to move hay in wet weather, confining cattle to a feeding barn in winter, and storing the manure under cover before returning it to hay fields the next summer.

Normally, when making a new seeding, it is suggested to first take a soil sample and apply lime and fertilizer based on the soil test. However, years with prolonged, excessive precipitation are not normal years. In those cases, farmers need to get vegetative cover planted as soon as the weather permits. Most winter feeding areas will have adequate soil fertility and pH for the establishment of grasses.

Do take a soil test as soon as you can, and apply fertilizer and lime during the summer. However, do not hold off planting. If grass appears yellow, apply nitrogen fertilizer at 50 to 60 pounds per acre, per harvest. Sudangrass and sorghum-sudangrass will often respond to 100 to 150 pounds of nitrogen per acre.

West Virginia Conservation Agency



West Virginia
Conservation Agency



Natural Resource Conservation Service

Davin White - WVCA

Rebecca Haddix - NRCS

Safeguarding Princeton's Future: Rehabilitation Begins on Brush Creek Dams

A collaboration between federal, state, and local conservation partners is set to launch a dam rehabilitation project for Brush Creek Sites 14 and 15, two watershed dams near Princeton, West Virginia. Brush Creek Site 14, also referred to as Glenwood Park Dam, is located approximately five miles upstream from Princeton, while Brush Creek 15, also referred to as Dan Hale Reservoir, is about seven miles upstream.

These dams have played a crucial role in flood protection, water supply, and recreation since their completion in 1967, but they have aged beyond their initial evaluated life and now require upgrades to meet modern safety and performance standards.

Through United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Watershed Rehabilitation Program, these improvements will enhance their structural integrity, extend their service life, and safeguard the surrounding community for generations to come.

Why Rehabilitation is Needed

Rehabilitation is required to upgrade the structure to meet current design criteria. Without these critical upgrades, the risk of structural failure increases, potentially endangering lives and property downstream.

"The hazard potential of a dam is not determined by its physical condition," explained NRCS State Conservation Engineer in West Virginia Andy Deichert. "Rather, it reflects downstream conditions and the potential for damage or loss of life should the dam fail." He emphasized that communities and residents living downstream would be in danger if such an event occurred.

All high hazard potential dams in the state are required to have an Emergency Action Plan (EAP), which outlines measures to be taken in the unlikely event of a potential or actual dam failure.

Planned Improvements

The rehabilitation project will involve several essential upgrades to enhance the safety and longevity of both structures, including:

- Flattening embankment slopes to improve stability
- Replacing the internal filter and drain systems
- Improving the principal spillway systems
- Reinforcing the auxiliary spillways

These enhancements will extend the dams' service life while



Local, state, and federal partners, gathered at Brush Creek Watershed Dam Site 14, have spent years planning and designing the work to Brush Creek Sites 14 and 15.

maintaining its critical role in flood prevention.

"After years of planning and designing, the project is finally entering the construction phase a moment long awaited," said NRCS-WV Engineer and Project Manager, Derrick Crane.

Mercer County Commissioner (MCC) Brian Blankenship discussed the importance of the rehabilitation efforts and explained MCC's conjoining efforts to address sediment buildup in the reservoir.

"We've always had issues with sediment buildup in Glenwood Lake, making some areas shallow and overgrown with algae. This project will restore lake levels for better recreation and fishing. While draining the water may be an eyesore temporarily, it's a necessary step to ensure future generations can enjoy these resources," stressed Blankenship

Project Timeline and Partnerships

The rehabilitation of Brush Creek Sites 14 and 15 is expected to begin in March 2025 and take approximately four years to complete. The project is a collaboration between the West Virginia Conservation Agency (WVCA), Southern Conservation District (SCD), Green Valley Glenwood PSD, MCC, and NRCS.

Each of these agencies also shares a role in maintaining the dam upon completion of the project. The WVCA, SCD, PSD, and MCC take care of regular maintenance like mowing, checking risers, and clearing brush. WVCA also conducts monthly inspections, while NRCS participates in annual dam inspections.

WVCA's Executive Director Judith Lyons commended the support from local sponsors, federal, and state agencies, and the county commission. "We're so pleased to be at this point and to get this done for the folks down here. This will help take care of our infrastructure, give people clean water, and improve recreation. Everyone has been so good to work with the Mercer County Commission, the PSD, and the legislators for giving us dollars for a state match to meet the federal portion of the funds needed to move forward. We're just very thankful this day is here. It's a celebration for us."

"These projects are a prime example of local partnership in action. The PSD, county, state, and federal agencies are all working together to make this happen, and securing two reliable water supply sources is a fantastic outcome for the community," said WVCA Director of Watershed Projects Gene Saurborn.

Community Benefits

The rehabilitation of these dams will provide long-term benefits, including:

- Increased safety – reducing the risk of dam failure and potential loss of life.
- Sustained flood protection – maintaining the 500-year flood protection level for residences, businesses, and infrastructure downstream.
- Preservation of a key municipal water source for the community.
- Property value preservation – protecting real estate values in the surrounding areas.
- Recreational opportunities – preservation of a recreation facility for the community.

"This will benefit the community in many ways," said Mercer County Commission President Bill Archer. "It's more



The Dan Hale Reservoir, or Brush Creek 15, has played a crucial role in flood protection for nearly six decades. The rehabilitation project will extend the life of the dam, protecting people and property from flooding for decades to come.

than restoring our dams; it's revitalizing our part of the local ecosystem. We have healthy aquatic life, nesting osprey, bald eagles, and other wildlife that are living here year-round now. Looking ahead, we are planning for a wetland and educational trail that will help the community appreciate the importance of conservation."

By investing in these critical upgrades, the Brush Creek Site 14 and Site 15 rehabilitation project will safeguard Mercer County residents, businesses, and infrastructure while securing the long-term viability of these essential flood control structures.

In West Virginia, NRCS has assisted local sponsors with the development of 170 small watershed dams. Across the state, these watershed projects provide an estimated annual benefit of approximately \$82 million in reduced flooding and erosion damages, improved wildlife habitat, recreation, and water supply for an estimated 1.1 million people.



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CLASSIFIED ANNOUNCEMENTS

March 2025

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Fax: 304-558-2270
Email: marketbulletin@wvda.us
Mail: 1900 Kanawha Boulevard, E.
Charleston, WV 25305

April 2025 . .

Phone-In ads for the April issue must be received by **12 noon** on **Thursday, March 13.**

Written ads for the April issue must be received by **1 p.m. on, Friday, March 14.**

May 2025 . .

Phone-In ads for the May issue must be received by **12 noon** on **Monday, April 14.**

Written ads for the May issue must be received by **1 p.m. on, Tuesday, April 15.**

To subscribe to *The Market Bulletin*, email marketbulletin@wvda.us or phone 304-558-3708.

Apiary Events

Barbour Co. Beekeepers Assoc., Monthly Meeting, 4th Thursday, 7:00 p.m., Barbour Co. Fairgrounds in metal quonset hut, Contact Dave Hunt, 304-457-4500.

Clay Co. Beekeepers Assoc., Contact Mark Davis, 304-651-3002; claycobeekeepers@gmail.com.

Fayette Co. Beekeepers Assoc., Monthly Meeting, last Monday, 6:00 p.m., 401 W. Maple Ave., Contact Rick Forren, 304-539-1303.

Harrison Co. Beekeepers, Discussion Group, Contact Larry Forinash 304-669-5410; lforinash1@gmail.com

Kanawha Valley Beekeepers Assoc., Bi-Monthly Meeting, Contact Rick Armstrong, 304-553-1923.

Marion Co. Beekeepers Assoc., Meeting, 4th Thursday, 6 p.m., Eldora Methodist Church, Contact Debbie Abels, 304-633-5647; deb.abel53@yahoo.com.

Monongalia Co. Beekeepers Assoc., Monthly Meeting, 1st Tuesday, 6:00 p.m., WVU Ext. Office, 270 Mylan Park Lane, Morgantown, Contact Kevin Hart, kevin.hart@monocountybeekeepers.org.

Mountaineer Beekeepers Assoc., Bi-Monthly Meeting, 2nd Monday, 6:30 p.m., City Bldg. on School Rd, Contact Patrick O'Connell, oconnellpatrick0370@gmail.com.

Mountaineer Beekeepers Assoc., Discussion Meeting, 4th Thursday, 6:30 p.m., Doddridge Co. Library, downstairs meeting room, Union, Contact Patrick O'Connell, oconnellpatrick0370@gmail.com.

Potomac Highlands Beekeepers Assoc., Monthly Meeting, 2nd Thursday, 7 p.m., Romney Firehouse Center, High St., Downtown Romney, Contact Kirby Vining, 202-213-2690; secretary.phba@gmail.com.

Preston Co. Beekeepers Assoc., Monthly Meeting, 3rd Thursday, WVU Ext. Office, Kingwood, Contact Scott Lewis, 304-376-0453.

Southeastern Beekeepers Assoc., Monthly Meeting, 1st Monday, 6:00 p.m., Ronald P. Sharp Alumni Conference Center, WV Osteopathic School, Lewisburg, Contact Rick Forren, 304-539-1303.

Tri State Beekeepers Assoc., Monthly Meeting, 3rd Thursday, Feb.-May 6:30 p.m., Good Zoo Bldg., Oglebay Park, Wheeling, novice program, Contact tristatebees@gmail.com.

Upshur Co. Beekeepers Assoc., Monthly Meeting, 3rd Tuesday, 6:30 p.m., Upshur Co. Farm Bureau Bldg. on Rt. 33 between Buckhannon & Weston, terriobennett@gmail.com.

West Central Beekeepers Assoc., Spring Conference, March 28 & 29, White Hall, WV, master beekeeping testing will be off site at New Life Ministries Church, 617 Manley Chapel Rd., Fairmont, Contact Debbie Abels, 304-633-5647; deb.abel53@yahoo.com.

Apiary Sales

Bee hives, 2, complete w/o bees, 4, 8-frame medium supers, 9, shallow honey supers, all drawn comb, uncapping knife, oxalic acid vaporizer, extractor, \$500/obo. William Cox, 1045 Johnstown Rd., Lost Creek, 26385; 304-745-5336.

Honeybees; 5-frame nuc ready to pickup early mid May: Italian or Carniolan '25 queens, \$180/ea.; Over-wintered '24 queens, \$200/ea; single hive, bottom board, 10-frame deep w/honeybees & queen, inner cover & telescoping cover, \$375/ea. Bill Daetwyler, 33 Hilltop Dr., Shinnston, 26431; 304-641-1611.

All bee colonies must be registered with the West Virginia Department of Agriculture. Please contact the Animal Health Division at 304-558-2214.

Cattle Sales

Reg. Polled Hereford bulls, \$2,500/up. Bobby Daniel, P.O. Box 214, Fairdale, 25839; 304-575-7585.

Reg. Black Angus, Sim-Angus, Balancer bulls, sired by Growth Fund, Black Hawk, Guarantee, Regiment, Southern Charm, Teamwork, \$3,000; Angus heifers, \$2,000. John Hedrick, 4048 War Ridge Rd., Wayside, 24985; 304-573-1008; 304-466-0050; bjhpvffarm@aol.com.

Reg. Polled Hereford 3/24 bulls, halter broke, dark red, Leader 6964 & KCF Bennett Encore 2311 blood, \$2,500/up. David Knotts, 63 Henderson Ridge Rd., Fairmont, 26554; 304-612-3795; dnsk0603@gmail.com.

Reg. Hereford yrlg. bulls, low bw EPDs & ready for spring breeding, \$2,500/up. Ken Scott, 2586 Grandview Rd., Beaver, 25813; 304-573-0844; chance37@suddenlink.net.

Reg. Angus 18-mo. bull, great numbers, low bw, high RibEye & yw, \$2,200. Dave Summers, 1096 Summers Rd., Grafton, 26354; 304-265-3150; 304-677-6255.

Equipment Sales

No trucks, cars, vans, campers or other autos; backhoes (except 3-pt. hitch), dozers or other construction equipment; lawn equipment; no parts.

Ford '52 8N, no rust, excel. rubber rear tires/oil pressure, barn kept, just needs new battery, \$2,500. Bob Luchetti, 145 Point Run Rd., Triadelphia, 26059; 304-547-1878.

MF '22 2670H tractor 75 hp engine/65 hp PTO, 4x4 loader, 6' bucket, 2 sets of rear remotes, 8-speed shuttle shift., approx. 160 hrs., excel. cond., remaining transferable 5-yr. power train warranty, \$34,000. Jason McVicker, 4230 Dusk Camp Run Rd., Sand Fork, 26430; 304-997-0142.

MF 240 4 WD tractor w/front mounted grader blade, brush hog, cultivator/lay off attach., log splitter, sprayer, garage kept, low hrs., \$14,000. Charles Morris, 314 Line Crk. Rd., Summersville, 26651; 304-619-7427; emorris1@shentel.net

NH TT60 tractor w/loader, 1,000 hrs., \$20,000; Ford 3910 tractor/w loader, barn kept, \$15,000; Bush Hog brand 3-pt. hitch tiller, \$2,000; set of 12" dbl. plows, \$500. Homer Plumley, 351 Plumley Mountain Rd., Shady Springs, 25918; 304-573-8799.

Zeter tractor w/bucket, hay pick & road grader, \$12,000. Donna Samples, 1272 Green Knoll Dr., South Charleston, 25309; 681-385-8126,

NH 850 hay baler, runs great, baled hay this yr. w/it, needs 60 hp or above to run, bales 4½x4½ bales, must pick up but can load it for you, \$2,000. Michael Wray, 524 Erwing Rd., Winfield, 25213; 304-562-7712.

Goat Sales

Pure ADGA registrable Nubian 2/25 bucklings, from excel. show & milk blood, disbudded, vacc., clean tested herd, comes w/application papers, \$200. Leslie Gallien, 474 Wymer Run Rd., Jane Lew, 26378; 304-884-7020.

Saanen '24 kids & others, \$200/up, email preferred. Jim Kirk, 2345 Hudson Branch, Culloden, 25510; 304-743-6696; upahollow60@hotmail.com.

Mostly Saanen/Nubian mix baby goats, ready 4/1/25: males, \$40; females, \$60; yrlg. & 2-yr.-old, \$75. John Leyzorek, 2133 Edray Rd., Marlinton, 24954; 304-799-7191.

Pure Nigerian Dwarf starter herd, buck & 3, does, papers not included., \$500/all. Mary Pinson, 10736 Exchange Rd., Exchange, 26619; 304-765-5286.

Saanen & Saanen/Alpine 1-wk. doeling, \$50, buckling, \$40, milk stock, ready 3/25, disbudded, vacc. Greg Sava, 1896 Bays Rd., Birch River, 26610; 304-649-2975; gregverena@gmail.com.

ADGA Nigerian 1/25 dwarf kids, blue eyes, wattles, moonspots, high color, disbudded, show quality, vacc., doelings, \$400; bucklings, \$350. Mary Wolfe, 1430 Tribble Rd., Leon, 25123; 304-458-1992; leslie.wolfe@frontier.com.

Plant Sales

Seed, Caster beans (mole killer-dog tick) \$3/24 seeds. Jerry McCauley, 5519 Seneca Trail, Valley Bend, 26293; 304-642-9737.

Poultry Sales

Barnyard mix of 9 healthy chickens, \$50/all. Mary Pinson, 10736 Exchange Rd., Exchange, 26619; 304-765-5286.

Sheep Sales

Pure St. Croix 7-mo. ram, \$250. Lois Pitsenbarger, 177 Ralee Dr., Fayetteville, 25840; 304-575-3228.

Miscellaneous Sales

No riding habits or other clothes; appliances or furniture; antiques or crafts; hand power tools or equipment; food processing or preservation items or equipment; general wood working tools; firewood. Only dogs recognized by the AKC will be accepted.

Hay, round bales, mixed grass, several years old but still good, \$2/bale/obo. Johnny Barkley, 20918 Morgantown Pike, Thornton, 26440; 304-265-5672.

Egg tractor, ready for uses, has tires but sits flat on concrete, predator safe, includes, 2, waters/1 heated, feeding receptacle, layered feed, \$850. Ralph Bassett, 2105 Lee Crk. Rd., Culloden, 25510; 304-208-5916.

AKC reg. Border Collie pups, \$300. Kayla Campbell, 18 Lapoe Village, Core, 26541; 304-288-4289.

CKC reg. Collie 3-mo. pup, the old Lassie Collie, sable & white, vacc./wormed, parents on premises, \$400/ea. Kevin Cummings, 110 Walnut St., Evans, 25241; 304-372-8615.

Hay carrier, Mountaineer brand, 3-pt. hitch, heavy duty bale carriers, singles, \$450; dbl spears, carry 2 at a time, excel. cond., \$1,400. Robbie Knopp, 437 Ralston Hill Rd., Walker, 26180; 304-421-1515.

ASDR & CKC reg. Aust. Shep. pups: black tri males, 5, \$400; blue merle females, 4, \$600; blue merle males, 3, \$600, tails docked, vacc./wormed. Vicki Mitchem, 229 Stoney Crk. Rd., Alderson, 24910; 304-575-6036.

Rabbits, New Zealand White from grand champion prize winning stock, great for 4-H, \$100/up. Mike Sprouse, 3061 WV Hwy. 5 W., Glenville, 26451; 304-266-7384.

Pure Great Pyrenees pups out of working stock, parents on premises, \$200. Leslie Spurlock, 400 Calf Lane, Glenwood, 25520; 304-412-5432.

Great Pyrenees pups, vacc./wormed, working parents on premises, will del. free 50 miles, \$200/ea. Dorothy Stewart, 1168 Greenbrier Crk. Rd., Fort Gay 25514; 304-690-1331.

HIGH TUNNEL WORKSHOP SERIES
 March 13 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
 NRCS Beckley Field Office
 465 Ragland Rd., Beckley, WV
 Topic: Food Access
 March 27 5:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
 NRCS Princeton Field Office
 301 Hardwood Lane, Suite A, Princeton, WV
 Topic: Food Access

AGRICULTURE WORKSHOP
 March 22, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m.
 WV Farm Museum
 Pt. Pleasant, WV
 Lunch will be provided
 Register by 3/14/25, 304-675-3054
 wcd@wvca.us.

6TH ANNUAL SPRING FEVER
 April 26, 1:00 p.m.
 Jackson's Mill
 Weston, WV
 Selling 75 lots of Simmental cattle
 For information or catalog,
 Chris Brown, 304-290-8383.

2025 WV BEEF EXPO
 April 10-12
 Jackson's Mill
 Weston, WV
 Selling 6 breeds of cattle
 For information or catalog, 304-269-4660 or
 304-556-3504;
 bmlloyd@mail.wvu.edu.

Spraying for Weeds & Bush on Pasture/ Hayfields
 Soil sampling, precision Ag soil sampling & mapping
 Dennis Burns, 304-646-2779.

Ravenswood FFA 45th Consignment Farm Machinery Auction
 March 29, 9 a.m.
 Jackson Co. Fairgrounds, Cottageville, WV
 Board of Education Sale, March 28, 6 p.m.
 Contact Jessica Conger, 304-532-1430.


APPRENTICE/ AUCTIONEER EXAM

April 15
 Guthrie Agricultural Complex
 217 Gus R. Douglass Lane, Bldg. 2
 Charleston, WV
 Registration begins at 8:30 a.m.
 Written Exam begins at 9:00 a.m.
 Oral Auctioneer Exam 12:00 p.m.

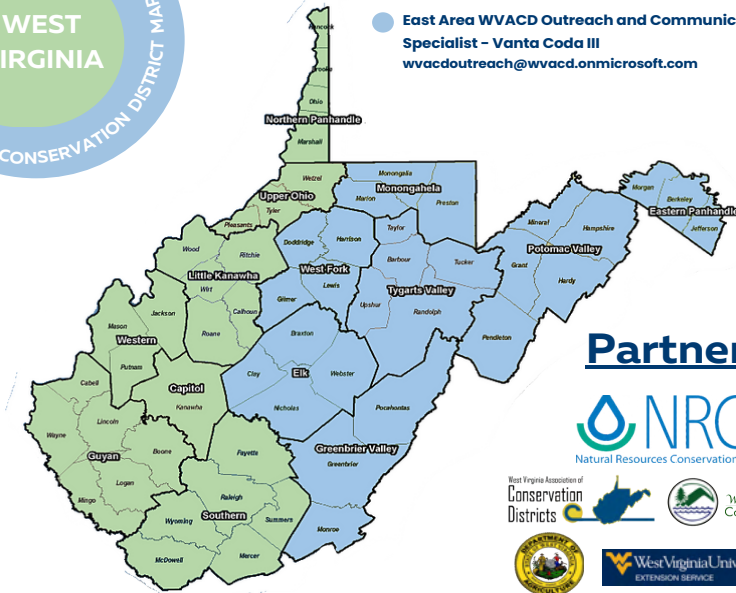
Pre-Exam Review (Sponsored by the
 WV Auctioneers Association)

April 14
 Guthrie Agricultural Complex
 217 Gus R. Douglass Lane, Bldg. 2
 Charleston, WV
 5:30 p.m.

Questions:
 Jennifer Zagata
 304-558-3200



WEST VIRGINIA CONSERVATION DISTRICT MAP




East Area WVACD Outreach and Communication Specialist - Vanta Coda III
 wvacdoutreach@wvacd.onmicrosoft.com

UPCOMING EDUCATIONAL GRAZING EVENTS

Conservation districts across the state of West Virginia are receiving funding for 2025 educational grazing events. Please reach out to your local specialist to learn about your area's offerings.

CONTACT US TODAY!

Partners



West Area WVACD Outreach and Communication Specialist - Julie Simmons
 wvacdoutreach2@wvacd.onmicrosoft.com

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

2024-25 WVU Extension Calendar content developed by WVU Extension, and the WVU Agricultural and Natural Resources

GARDEN CALENDAR

MARCH/APRIL

MARCH 3 Seed globe artichokes (indoors).
Order rhubarb crowns.

MARCH 5 Seed leeks as transplants.
Seed microgreens.

MARCH 10 Seed leaf lettuce and spinach (indoors).

MARCH 11 Seed tomatoes (indoors).

MARCH 12 Seed peppers (indoors).

MARCH 14 Seed peas (outdoors).
Plant nonflowering trees and shrubs.

MARCH 18 Seed salsify. Seed head lettuce.

MARCH 21 Fertilize spring-flowering bulbs.
Plant asparagus (outdoors).

MARCH 26 Use row covers for freeze protection.

MARCH 28 Sow rosemary seeds.
Plant table grapes.

APRIL 1 Monitor for asparagus beetles.
Plant figs.

APRIL 2 Seed onions, beets, and radishes (outdoors).
Seed kale and collards.

APRIL 3 Plant cabbage and kohlrabi.
Seed basil for transplant (indoors).

APRIL 4 Plant potatoes.

APRIL 7 Turn compost. Seed dill (indoors).

APRIL 9 Plant fruit and hazelnut trees.
Apply crabgrass control.



West Virginia University Extension creates and distributes free garden calendars each year. Stop by your local WVU Extension office to get a copy (while supplies last).

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