



*Friday Notes* is designed to enhance communication among various agricultural sectors, educators, students, and the public who are interested in a variety of plant, animal, food, and environmental issues. *Friday Notes* advocates the pursuit of credible, unbiased, science-based information. Material contained in linked articles is from the original authors and does not necessarily reflect the views of CAST.

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### Announcements



Please see the CAST Updates section below for information on the upcoming announcement of the 2022 CAST BCCA recipient on May 10.

The IFAMA Young Board is hosting a [free webinar on regenerative agriculture](#) Friday, April 15.

### CAST College Corner

[Iowa State University](#) received a grant to work on groundbreaking research regarding blood stem cells.

[Penn State University](#) extension researchers say PA farmers markets generate over \$100 million in direct economic activity during the six-month market season.

A [University of Nevada, Reno](#) professor and his team were awarded two patents for drought tolerance in vital crops.

### CAST Social Media

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**April 8, 2022**

## Global Food Security Challenges

With inflation on the rise and the continuation of the Russia-Ukraine conflict, global food security is in question. A poultry report suggests global poultry demand and trade will remain strong this year, but the [industry will face](#)



[challenges related to historic high-cost inflation](#) and logistic disruptions, which will especially impact low income countries. According to a [new report, this conflict](#) will negatively affect global grain flows for at least two crop years.

Is CRP the answer? An article released mid-March suggested USDA leaders think that opening up Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) [ground is unlikely](#). But as the Russia-Ukraine conflict continues, there is growing concern over the implications this war will have on global food security and whether the United States [may need to look to CRP](#) ground to increase total grain and oilseed production.

### News and Views

**USDA Updates:** The USDA announced 1) that ranchers who have approved applications through the 2021 Livestock Forage Disaster Program for forage losses due to severe drought or wildfire in [2021 will begin receiving payments](#), and 2) its strengthened commitment to advancing research and programmatic priorities that [support pollinator health](#).

**Climate Change:** Agriculture and forestry could play meaningful roles in reducing greenhouse gas emissions around the world, according to a new report from the [Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change](#).

**HPAI:** Nearly [23 million birds have been depopulated](#) across 24 states. A novel vaccine [protects birds from the H9N2 strain](#) and it avoids interference from maternal antibodies.

### Far Side of the Barn

**So You Want To Be a Millionaire?** A woman was



CAST [welcomes ideas](#) for future publications and projects.

getting ready to purchase her typical lottery ticket when someone bumped into her, causing her to accidentally push the wrong button, which [gave her the ticket with the top prize of \\$10 million.](#)



**Taking a Swim:** A steer was [rescued from a swimming pool](#) after it got out of a nearby pasture.

## CAST Updates

### Upcoming 2022 BCCA Recipient Announcement

The Council for Agricultural Science and Technology 2022 Borlaug CAST Communication Award (BCCA) Recipient Announcement will take place Tuesday, May 10 from 11:30-12:30 pm (CST).

Dr. Sarah Evanega, the 2021 BCCA recipient, will be the featured speaker. Dr. Chavonda Jacobs-Young, Administrator, Agricultural Research Service, United States Department of Agriculture, will give welcome remarks and Dr. Anna Dilger, CAST President, will announce the 2022 recipient.



[You can register for the free webinar here](#)

## Welcome, Nick!



Nick Plaughter recently joined CAST as a Communications Project Coordinator. Nick grew up in Clarksburg, West Virginia in the hills of the Appalachian Mountains. He is interested in learning more about marketing, media, and communications in various channels. Nick looks forward to bringing an outside perspective to CAST as he works remotely.

[Learn more about Nick in his blog](#)

## Animal Agriculture and Environmental News

**Co-Grazing:** Adding meat goats to your beef cattle operation [may improve your financials](#), says a University of Missouri Extension agricultural business specialist.

**Animal Rights:** According to this article's author, animal rights extremist groups work together toward the common goal of eliminating animal agriculture, this [web' shows what groups are connected.](#)

**Bees and Flowers:** Planting flower mixes around fields helps keep bees healthy—farmers grow these attractive [crops in monoculture farms](#), each planted with clean, straight rows of a single type of crop. Check out the [CAST Bee Health paper.](#)



A university's Pre-Vet Club held its first ["I Wanna Be A Vet Kids Camp."](#) for children who take an interest in animal health and dream of being a vet someday.

## Food Science and Safety News

**Vertical Farming:** A [hydroponic indoor vertical farming](#) company has opened its newest farm and anticipates its first harvest of lettuce and microgreens in May.

**Impact of Technology:** This podcast features six agricultural leaders who discuss how they use [technology to increase food safety](#) and crop yield—and help spread the reach of the industry via social media.

**Fruits & Veggies:** The Ohio State University tells us how we can [diversify our fruit and vegetable](#) intake this spring and how we should prepare them.

**Exotic Fruit (podcast):** This podcast [discusses exotic fruit and why it matters](#). The podcast guest shows her social media audience how to buy, store, ripen, prepare, and eat exotic fruits.



**Researchers from NC State University found that more than a quarter of study participants [contaminated salad with raw poultry](#).**

## Plant Agriculture and Environmental News

**Nutrients:** This blog from the Soil Science Society of America discusses [what six nutrients can do for plants](#)

**Forestry:** The University of Kentucky's Wood Utilization Center is recognized for its work with the forest products industry and it's a great place for the public to engage in [woodworking activities while learning about the state's forestry](#) and natural resources.

**Climate Research:** Interdisciplinary endeavors at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln are helping [solve critical challenges in Nebraska and the world](#).

**Invasive Pests:** The USDA has declared April 2022 as [Invasive Plant Pest and Disease Awareness Month](#) and is asking the public to look for invasive pests.



**Mississippi State researchers developed a [high-performing rice variety](#) that may be an "insurance policy" for growers.**

## International News

**Shared Priorities:** U.S. and Mexican agriculture secretaries met to address shared priorities and discuss open trade, science-based policy making, and [sustainable and climate-smart agricultural production](#).

**Right to Repair:** The right to repair just got easier thanks to a company based in Spain that's created a tool to [diagnose and repair equipment](#).

**GE Wheat:** Argentina's new genetically engineered, drought-tolerant wheat could have [large environmental benefits](#).

**Sugar Sales:** After two years of lull, India's sugar [consumption is set to hit record highs](#) in the current summer season as demand from bulk consumers such as cold drink and ice cream-makers rises.



**Kansas State University has been awarded a grant to enhance capacity of six universities to [support agriculture-led growth in Haiti](#).**

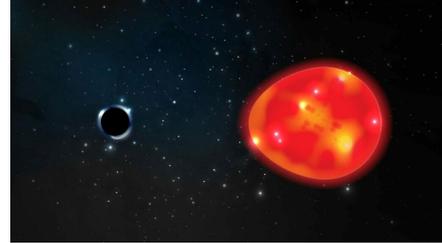
## General Interest News

**Model Octopus:** A lab in Massachusetts may have [finally found an eight-armed cephalopod](#) that can serve as a model organism and assist scientific research.

**Charles Darwin:** Two missing Charles Darwin notebooks have been [mysteriously returned more than 20 years](#) after their disappearance.

**Mummified Bird:** A bird—believed to be a sacred ibis—has been drawing a lot of attention, and covering a lot of ground at Cornell University. Not bad for an animal that has been dead and mummified [for more than 1,500 years](#)

**Ag Economy:** The Ag Economy Barometer dipped to a reading of 113 in March, [36% lower than March 2021](#), marking the weakest farmer sentiment reading since May 2020.



**A graduate student thought he had discovered two star systems with invisible black holes. Instead, reexamination of the data revealed that each star system had two stars in a [never-before-seen stage of stellar evolution](#).**

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- \* American Dairy Science Association
- \* American Farm Bureau Federation
- \* American Meat Science Association
- \* American Meteorological Society, Committee on Agricultural and Forest Meteorology
- \* American Seed Trade Association
- \* American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers
- \* American Society of Agronomy
- \* American Society of Animal Science
- \* American Society of Plant Biologists
- \* American Veterinary Medical Association
- \* Association of Equipment Manufacturers
- \* Aquatic Plant Management Society
- \* BASF Corporation
- \* Bayer
- \* Corteva Agriscience
- \* CropLife America
- \* Crop Science Society of America
- \* Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy
- \* Iowa State University
- \* Mississippi State University
- \* National Cattlemen's Beef Association, a Contractor to the Beef Checkoff
- \* National Corn Growers Association/Iowa Corn Promotion Board
- \* National Milk Producers Federation
- \* National Pork Board
- \* National Turkey Federation
- \* North Central Weed Science Society
- \* Northeastern Weed Science Society
- \* Penn State University
- \* Poultry Science Association
- \* Rural Sociological Society
- \* Society for In Vitro Biology
- \* Soil Science Society of America
- \* Syngenta Crop Protection
- \* The Fertilizer Institute
- \* The Minor Use Foundation
- \* Tuskegee University
- \* United Soybean Board
- \* University of Nevada-Reno
- \* U.S. Poultry and Egg Association
- \* Weed Science Society of America
- \* Western Society of Weed Science
- \* Zoetis

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## Members of CAST's Education Program

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- \* Iowa State University
- \* Kansas State University
- \* Mississippi State University
- \* North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University
- \* North Carolina State University
- \* Penn State University
- \* Texas A&M University College of Ag & Life Sciences
- \* The Ohio State University
- \* Tuskegee University

- \* University of California-Davis
- \* University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences
- \* University of Kentucky
- \* University of Missouri-Columbia
- \* University of Nebraska Agricultural Research Division
- \* University of Nevada-Reno College of Agriculture, Biotechnology and Natural Resources

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*\*\* With assistance from Colleen Hamilton (Membership Specialist)*

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