

Friday Notes



The Science Source for Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Issues

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



[May is Beef Month](#). Here are five ways to celebrate this checkoff-funded event.

The NIAA Animal ID Council USDA Update meeting is on June 8 at 2 p.m. CST. [Click here for registration.](#)

CAST College Corner

West [Texas A&M University](#) feedlot helps students gain real-life experience with modern feeding systems and advanced technologies.

[Mississippi State University](#) Extension offers a checklist for canning equipment before harvest begins.

The [University of Nebraska-Lincoln](#) Animal Welfare Judging Team placed fifth in a national competition.

CAST Social Media

May 13, 2022

Wiedmann Named 2022 BCCA Recipient

[Dr. Martin Wiedmann](#) was named the [2022 Borlaug CAST Communication Award](#) (BCCA) recipient on Tuesday, May 10. Wiedmann is the Gellert Family Professor of Food Safety, Department of Food Science in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences at Cornell University. He is currently an associate director at the Northeast Dairy Foods Research Center at Cornell University and co-director at the New York Integrated Food Safety Center of Excellence. His communication style is extremely effective in both conveying information to the intended audience, as well as stimulating discussion and questions around key food safety issues.



Opening the webinar, Dr. Chavonda Jacobs-Young, Administrator, Agricultural Research Service, United States Department of Agriculture, [gave welcome remarks](#). Dr. Sarah Evanega ([2021 BCCA](#)) presented on [People & Planet: Finding our science communication purpose](#), and Dr. Anna Dilger, CAST President, [announced Wiedmann as the 2022 BCCA recipient](#). The [whole webinar can be viewed here](#)

News and Views

USDA Updates: The agency 1) released its latest [World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates](#) report and 2) announced the first round of funding through the new [Partnerships for Climate-Smart Commodities](#) has shown strong interest as they've received over 450 proposals.

AANHPI Month: The [Asian American and Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander \(AANHPI\) Heritage Month](#) is observed annually in May. Read how a cattle rancher from [Tinian Island](#) [uses the limited acres for his operation](#).

HPAI: The toll from the HPAI outbreak sits at over 37 million culled birds, which is ten times the number from the outbreak in 2015. It is [especially affecting wild birds and bald eagles](#).

Far Side of the Barn

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

Morel Mushroom Mania:

Two men found [nearly 200 pounds of morel mushrooms](#) in unexpected places.

Dragonfish: Researchers [spot a rare type of dragonfish](#) at 1,000 feet deep.

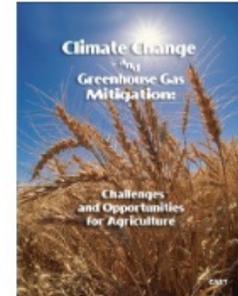


CAST Updates

Dr. Cynthia Rosenzweig and CAST

Dr. Cynthia Rosenzweig of the United States, and a leading climatologist, agronomist and former farmer, will receive the [2022 World Food Prize](#) for her seminal contributions to understanding and predicting the impacts of the interaction between climate and food systems.

Dr. Rosenzweig was a task force author on the CAST Task Force Report R141, [Climate Change and Greenhouse Gas Mitigation: Challenges and Opportunities for Agriculture](#), released in May 2004. This report analyzes agriculture's complex, pivotal role in this vitally important issue by considering policy options, implementation, and future monitoring and verification of GHG mitigation. The report outlines seven potential methods for agricultural mitigation of GHG concentrations.



CAST joins the World Food Prize in congratulating Dr. Rosenzweig on this well-deserved honor!

Animal Agriculture and Environmental News

Endangered Species: A Cornell University study has found that endangered and threatened insects and spiders, as well as common species that provide valuable ecological services, [can be easily purchased through basic internet searches](#).

CWD in Michigan Deer: The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development [confirmed chronic wasting disease \(CWD\)](#) in one white-tailed deer from a farmed cervid facility.

Farm System Reform Act: Senator Cory Booker (D-New Jersey) [reintroduced the Farm System Reform Act](#) in July 2021, which was originally introduced in January 2020. There [have been mixed responses](#) about the bill.



California dairy digesters have critics, but [they reduce methane](#). Read more about them in Frank Mitloehner's [\(2019 BCCA\)](#) latest blog.

Food Science and Safety News

Food Prices: Sharply lower prices for palm, sunflower, and soybean oils [helped pull down the Food Price Index](#) marginally from its record high that followed Russia's invasion of Ukraine.

Sorghum Focus: In a volatile world, U.S. sorghum farmers can [provide a safe and affordable food source](#)

New Research: New research on hazards in low-moisture foods [fills critical knowledge gaps](#) and identifies cutting-edge



Fruit development has been slow for cherry growers in Michigan and

Plant Agriculture and Environmental News

GHGs: A study from Iowa State University has found relationships among herbicide-resistant weeds, tillage practices, and [agricultural greenhouse gas emissions](#).

Ransomware Attack: An agricultural equipment company was hit by a ransomware attack, [causing limited production on tractors, combines, and parts](#) during the busy season.

Texas Wildfires: Wildfire threats are not over in Texas, but preliminary estimates from early March through the end of April [put losses to ranchers at \\$23.1 million](#) from multiple fires that covered 433,000 acres.



There are [three acres of rooftop farms in Washington, D.C.](#) that range from 1,000 square feet to one acre per rooftop.

International News

Dairy in China: A dairy economist says [China's latest dairy import numbers](#) could be worrisome for prices.

Fossil Fuels: The European Commission plans to unveil a 195 billion euro plan to stop importing Russian fossil fuels by 2027, [combining a faster rollout of renewable energy](#) and energy savings with a switch to alternative gas supplies.

Desertification in Dubai: The food supply in Dubai is threatened by desertification as the desert sand continues to [encroach on emirate's remaining fertile land](#).

Wheat Supply: Countries are [facing adverse weather](#) and supply chain challenges, adding to volatility in the wheat market.



The trade body for Britain's pig industry told the country's biggest supermarket group [that it needs to do more to support struggling producers.](#)

General Interest News

Mental Health: Addressing mental health challenges is critical so that farmers can [successfully navigate other stressors that are common](#) in their day-to-day lives.

Biosecurity: Land-grant universities are [the key to agricultural biosecurity](#) and provide a first line of defense to protect public health, economic and national security, and the livelihood of farm communities.

Black Hole: The first image of the [Milky Way's supermassive black hole was revealed](#), providing the first direct visual evidence of "the gentle giant" that lies at the center of our galaxy.



The 80-1 longshot Rich Strike won the Kentucky Derby on Saturday. This overhead view shows how the [horse and jockey pulled off the impossible.](#)

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- * Crop Science Society of America
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- * 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
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- * 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

CAST, through its network of experts, assembles, interprets, and communicates credible, balanced, science-based information to policymakers, the media, the private sector, and the public.

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