



*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.

### In This Issue....

**Animal Agriculture News**  
**Food Science & Safety News**  
**Plant & Environmental News**  
**International News**  
**General Interest News**

### Announcements



*CAST Blast from the Past:*  
On June 10-11, 1993, CAST participated in a Food Biotechnology Conference in Washington, D.C.

### CAST College Corner

A [Penn State University](#) student is working on an international bee project. Check out the 2017 [CAST Commentary on why bee health matters](#).

[NC A&T State University](#) received an investment from the USDA for a new HBCU Agribusiness Innovation Center.

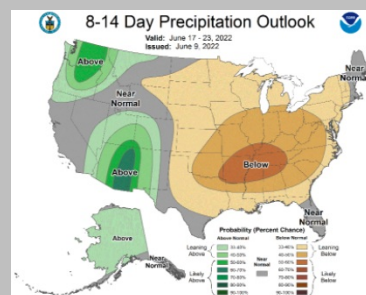
A team from [The Ohio State University](#) created a tool using drones and machine learning to check crop health.

### CAST Social Media

**June 10, 2022**

## The Drought's Impact on Agriculture

The U.S. drought situation is getting increasingly desperate and millions of people are currently [under water restrictions](#).



California's extensive drought is [catching up with almond producers](#), who may see a decline in their almond acres. America's beef supply is also [expected to shrink](#) due to drought and rising production costs.

The [8-14 day temperature and precipitation](#) outlook shows above normal temperatures and below normal precipitation in over half of the country.

### News and Views

**USDA Updates:** 1) The Senate has [confirmed Dr. Chavonda Jacobs-Young to serve](#) as the Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics at the USDA. 2) The department announced it's investing \$503 million to improve outdoor recreation and [conservation of national forests](#). 3) The USDA announced significant investments to support urban agriculture, including [grants, cooperative agreements](#), and six new urban county committees.

**HPAI Updates:** The USDA APHIS site shows the [most up-to-date information](#) on the latest HPAI outbreaks.

### Far Side of the Barn

**Ancient Yearbook:**  
Researchers in the

Visit our website



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

United Kingdom have found that an ancient Greek inscription on a [2,000-year-old marble tablet](#) is actually something resembling a yearbook for a graduating class.



## CAST Updates

### Top 10 CAST Publications



As CAST celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2022, we wanted to acknowledge the top ten CAST publications that have had the greatest impact. You can view the [top ten on this blog](#) and click on the publication titles to view the individual publications.

[Click here to access](#) the 50th anniversary commemorative publication which offers three sections covering 1) CAST historical highlights, publications, social media, and organizational structure, 2) the impact of CAST, and 3) essays on the future of CAST.

## Animal Agriculture and Environmental News

**Solar Sites for Pastureland:** Solar grazing has [blunted the concerns](#) of those rattled by the conversion of farmland to energy production.

**Manatees:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service will [update its manatee critical habitat protections](#) for the first time since 1976.

**Aquaculture:** With the U.S. importing a vast majority of seafood, a study shows [voters may want to expand U.S. aquaculture farming](#) to provide jobs and seafood.



Iowa has [lifted its order cancelling](#) live bird exhibitions due to highly pathogenic avian influenza.

## Food Science and Safety News

**Food Labels:** The proliferation of labels can make it difficult for customers to decipher what's meaningful and what's not, and [many are merely marketing](#). Check out the 2015 CAST Issue Paper on [process labeling of food](#).

**Eating Local:** There are environmental limits and misunderstandings of climate change [in regard to eating locally](#).

**Global Food Safety:** There is still a need to [improve communication and data sharing](#) during global food safety emergencies, according to experts.



A Kansas State University researcher [describes the odd effects](#) of a LoneStar tick bite that causes complications with animal food products.

# Plant Agriculture and Environmental News

**GMO Corn:** The USDA confirmed that genetically modified corn [doesn't damage non-target organisms](#). View the [study here](#).

**Lab-Raised Bugs (video):** Exotic insects, raised by specialists, are intentionally set free into the wild to [provide biological control](#) against invasive species.

**Cover Cropping:** Research from a university student concludes that [cover cropping alone](#) could harm Midwest soil after decades of continuous corn.



**Technology can [locate, count, and measure](#) over a thousand trees in a matter of hours.**

## International News

**Ag Genome Program:** The Abu Dhabi Authority for Agriculture and Food Safety launched the [Abu Dhabi Agricultural Genome Program](#).

**Wheat Harvest:** Australia, one of the world's largest wheat exporters, is forecast to produce another huge harvest this season--which [could help ease the tight market](#).

**Food Crises:** The Turkish Foreign Minister says the UN plan to [help export Ukrainian grain](#) to combat the food crisis sounds reasonable.



**Brazil is testing a [drought resistant, genetically modified](#) variety of wheat.**

## General Interest News

**Air to Water:** University researchers have developed a material capable of [pulling water from the air](#), which can then be used for farming or drinking.

**Powered by Ammonia:** A company is working to develop [ammonia-powered tractors](#) with the goal of cutting air pollution.

**Ag Jobs:** U.S. agriculture exports [support over one million jobs](#) through production, processing, storage, transportation, and marketing of farm and food products.



**Movie theaters are [experiencing popcorn and candy shortages](#) due to inflation.**

## Photo Credits

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- \* Agricultural & Applied Economics Association
- \* American Association of Avian Pathologists
- \* American Association of Bovine Practitioners
- \* American Bar Association, Section of Environment, Energy, & Resources-Agricultural Management
- \* 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
- \* Society for Range Management
- \* 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.*

## **Members of CAST's Education Program**

- \* Cornell University
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- \* Kansas State University
- \* Mississippi State University
- \* North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University
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- \* Penn State University
- \* Texas A&M University College of Ag & Life Sciences
- \* The Ohio State University
- \* Tuskegee University
- \* University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture
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- \* University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences
- \* University of Kentucky
- \* University of Missouri-Columbia
- \* University of Nebraska Agricultural Research Division
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The Science Source for Food,  
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*\*\* With assistance from Colleen Hamilton (Membership Specialist) and Nick Plaugher (Communications Project Coordinator)*

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