

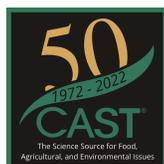


Friday Notes is designed to enhance communication among various agricultural sectors, educators, students, and the public who are interested in a variety of plant, animal, food, and environmental issues. *Friday Notes* advocates the pursuit of credible, unbiased, science-based information. Material contained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

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Announcements



CAST Blast from the Past
August 24-26, 1991 the CAST Board of Directors met in Kansas City, Missouri. The four new work groups—crop and soil sciences; animal sciences; plant protection; and food sciences and agricultural technology—reviewed and recommended topics for new reports.

Registration is now open for the [Second USDA Food Loss and Waste Innovation Fair](#) on September 14, 2022 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. EDT.

CAST College Corner

[UC Davis](#) will study whether agave could be a drought-tolerant and sustainable crop in California.

A [University of Missouri](#) junior claimed two national awards

August 26, 2022

Recognizing Outstanding Science Communicators

This article is part of a series highlighting CAST's 50th anniversary.

CAST was very pleased to recently recognize two extraordinary science communicators who were instrumental in our organization reaching its 50th anniversary—Dr. Charles A. Black and Dr. Norman E. Borlaug.



Both of these scientists were also part of the establishment of an award that helps CAST recognize other outstanding science communicators. Dr. Black was the namesake—and first recipient—of CAST's Charles A. Black Award for Exemplary Contributions to Public Understanding of Food and Agricultural Science in 1986. The award was presented annually to an outstanding agricultural science communicator [from 1987 through 2009](#).

Dr. Borlaug's legacy with CAST continues through the Borlaug CAST Communication Award (BCCA), which was renamed in his honor from the Charles A. Black Award in 2010. Since then the group of recipients continues to reflect the outstanding scientific communication achievements that began with Dr. Black and Dr. Borlaug.

For the last several years, the presentation of the BCCA has taken place through a key side event during the World Food Prize, another legacy of Dr. Borlaug's.

Watch upcoming issues for highlights of the work and accomplishments of our past BCCA recipients, and information on the 2022 event to be held in October.

Please view the CAST Updates section for information about past BCCA winners.

News and Views

USDA Updates: The USDA is investing in critical

for biochemistry research on antibodies.

[North Carolina A&T State University](#) will receive a \$23.7 million grant from the Commerce Department for a clean energy workforce program.

CAST Social Media

Visit our website



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

infrastructure to [combat climate change](#) across rural America.

FDA's Feed Your Mind: Greg Jaffe, Center for Science in the Public Interest, [shares a perspective](#) on the FDA's Feed Your Mind website.

Far Side of the Barn

Birthdays and Selling Cattle: A [rancher in Kansas turned 100 years old](#) at the beginning of August, then a few weeks later the sale barn employees held a celebration for her.

Farmer Pain Scale: A doctor on YouTube makes videos covering different view points as a doctor. In this video, he parodies a farmer—who didn't finish fixing the fence—[who came in voluntarily to the doctor's office](#) due to back pain.



CAST Updates

Borlaug CAST Communication Award Recipients



The picture above shows the [Borlaug CAST Communication Award](#) (BCCA) Recipients from 2010-2022. The BCCA is presented annually for outstanding achievement by a scientist, engineer, technologist, or other professional working in the agricultural, environmental, or food sectors for contributing to the advancement of science in the public policy arena. Primary consideration will be given to candidates who are actively engaged in promoting agriculture through research, teaching, extension, or mass communication; who have made significant contributions to their discipline or field; and who demonstrate a passionate interest in communicating the importance of agriculture to policymakers, the news media, and the public.

New Impact Reports Available

Impact data for each CAST publication is tracked and reported on at 6, 12, 18, and 24 months after the paper releases. At two years, the impact report is considered “final” and we no longer continue tracking unless there is a special request. Categories that are currently being tracked are: release/rollout, press release, comments received, follow-on activities, direct and indirect paper distribution, articles and web mentions, paper citations, and social media uses.

These papers have their final impact report available for viewing:

- [Impacts on Human Health and Safety of Naturally Occurring and Supplemental Hormones in Food Animals](#), released July 27, 2020
- [Agriculture and the Microbiome](#), released August 24, 2020

Animal Agriculture and Environmental News

Welfare Rules: The California [pig welfare rule delays](#) are frustrating small producers. The U.S. Supreme Court will soon hear a case brought by a national pork industry group that opposes the regulations.

Cooling Chickens: A professor from Mississippi State University explains that [cooling broiler chickens with sprinkler technology](#) dramatically reduces water use and enables better humidity control.

Blister Beetle: Agronomists are [warning producers to look out](#) for blister beetles around livestock.



Dairy farmers are reducing methane and greenhouse gas emissions by [sharing methane digesters](#).

Food Science and Safety News

Organic Transition Initiative: The USDA hopes to [reverse the current trend](#) of a decrease in non-certified organic farms transitioning to organic production.

Gene-editing Crops: According to new research, soybean crops saw an increased yield of 33% by improved photosynthesis via gene editing, which offers [great potential for food crops](#) more broadly.

Water Contaminant: Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances ([PFAS](#)) are [long-lasting compounds](#) that are showing up in soil, ground water, drinking water sources, and even rainfall.



As inflation rises, [access to Indigenous foods declines](#) as household budgets are spread thin from paying for gas, food, and rent.

Plant Agriculture and Environmental News

Young Soil: In order to grow well, plants need a place to grow, access to nutrients, and in most cases sunlight. Read more about young soils in the [Soil Science Society of America blog, Soils Matter](#).

California Planting: Extreme drought in California's prime agricultural territory has, to little surprise, [begun affecting the state's crop production](#).

Weather and Farming: [Weather affects everything](#) from planting to growth to harvest of crops, as well as health and resources for animals. It also has an impact on transportation to local markets, shipping across the globe, and is a key factor in setting



The [grains outlook is being impacted](#) by dynamic factors like war, logistics, weather, lingering effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, and possible

global prices.

recession have complicated harvesting efforts this year.

International News

Soybean Yield: An international team of researchers have improved the photosynthesis process of soybeans, in return, they [increased yields by 20%](#).

China's Heatwave: Much of southern China continues to swelter, as the [agriculture ministry warned](#) that an unprecedented heatwave and drought posed a threat to the autumn harvest.

Ukrainian Exports: The Black Sea export deal eased Ukraine's grain flows and brought down prices as Ukraine's [wheat harvest is now 91% complete](#).



Global drought has [uncovered lost artifacts around the world](#) as water levels recede, including this ancient packhorse bridge in England.

General Interest News

U.S. Warming Hole: A wavy jet stream, air pollution, and changes to the landscape are all theories for why the [Southeast has warmed less than other parts](#) of the planet.

Extinction Threat: A first-of-its-kind report shows [more than 100 native species of trees](#) in the lower 48 states are facing the threat of extinction due to invasive insects, diseases, and climate change.

FFA Record-High: The National FFA Organization membership reaches an all-time high record—[15% increase over last year](#).



Dinosaur [tracks from 113 million years ago](#) were uncovered due to severe drought conditions at Dinosaur Valley State Park in Texas.

Photo Credits

Far Side from Dr. Glaucomflecken/YouTube. Animal from stocksnap pixabay. Food from USDA Public Domain.

International from Jon Super/AP. General from Dinosaur Valley State Park. Unless otherwise noted, photos courtesy of the USDA Agricultural Research Service, Constant Contact, or CAST.

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- * Agricultural & Applied Economics Association
- * American Association of Avian Pathologists
- * American Association of Bovine Practitioners
- * American Bar Association, Section of Environment,

- * Mississippi State University
- * National Cattlemen's Beef Association, a Contractor to the Beef Checkoff
- * National Corn Growers Association/Iowa Corn

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
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 * Crop Science Society of America
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 * Iowa State University
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 * National Milk Producers Federation
 * National Pork Board
 * National Turkey Federation
 * North Central Weed Science Society
 * Northeastern Weed Science Society
 * Nutrien
 * 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 Mosaic Company
 * 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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The Science Source for Food,
 Agricultural, and Environmental Issues

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