



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



Solutions from the Land, the Global Alliance for Climate Smart Agriculture, the Global Farmers Network, and the ASEAN Climate Resilience Network are co-hosting a side event during the [Committee on World Food Security](#) which will focus on “The Role of Farmers in Concurrently Delivering Agroecosystems Services and Food & Nutrition Security”. The event will be held in Rome on October 10 and registration is [open for virtual participation](#).

CAST is hiring! Please see the CAST Updates section for more information on the EVP/CEO employment opportunity.

CAST College Corner

A [Mississippi State University](#) forum shows how agricultural innovation strengthens global food security.

A [Tuskegee University](#)

October 7, 2022

CAST's Evolving Signature Newsletter

CAST's newsletters have been an integral part of our organization since its inception 50 years ago!

The first hard copy newsletter, [Vol. 1, No. 1](#), was published in April 1974. It started as a quarterly publication, moving to bimonthly in 1975, and was primarily a way to keep current board members and other key stakeholders apprised of CAST's publications and projects.



CAST's first electronic newsletter began in 1996 as a means to communicate directly with member societies. Since then, it has gradually morphed into a valued membership benefit and continues to grow in importance within CAST's mission.

Recent improvements include a wider distribution, a more visually pleasing and user-friendly format, and additional videos and links.

As always, our intent is to use *Friday Notes*, social media, and any means available to us to continue communicating sound, objective science information around food and agriculture.

Thank you for being part of that 50-year journey by following and contributing to CAST's newsletter each week!

News and Views

USDA Updates: The USDA has \$500 million available to [increase innovative](#) American-made fertilizer.

professor received a fellowship award to minimize bias in the artificial intelligence field.

GAP Report: The 2022 [Global Agricultural Productivity \(GAP\) Report](#) has been released.

CAST Social Media

Visit our website



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

Far Side of the Barn

Fat Bear Week: [Fat Bear Week, held October 5-11](#), is a celebration of the resilience, adaptability, and strength of Katmai National Park's brown bears. You can even [vote for your favorites](#).



CAST Updates

CAST is Hiring a New EVP/CEO

CAST is seeking an EVP/CEO to advance CAST's mission as a leader in science communication, maintaining its strong publishing reputation, increasing public visibility and impact, and leading strong fundraising efforts to insure and sustainably manage the organization's financial resources.

The EVP/CEO provides visionary leadership to the organization and will work with staff and the board of directors to manage operations and projects necessary to implement and operationalize CAST's strategic goals:

1. Produce quality and relevant information in a timely manner for our stakeholders.
2. Strengthen our communications with stakeholders through social media and other means.
3. Maximize the value of our products to our stakeholders.
4. Build a strong financial base for the long-term stability of CAST.

More information on this position can be [found on the CAST website](#).

CAST Individual Membership

As a CAST member, you can help CAST to address some of the most important issues that impact our planet, such as how to feed the world's population; water and soil conservation; leading land use practices; and animal, food, and environmental science. This video shows the [benefits of being a CAST member](#). You can learn about ways to support CAST's work through one of the [individual membership](#) options we offer. Please contact our membership specialist, [Colleen Hamilton](#), with any questions.

Animal Agriculture and Environmental News

Water Recycling: A company is taking pig manure and separating it into a solid or liquid fraction, which in turn can create [water, liquid and solid organic fertilizer](#), and other options.

Hi-Tech Fish Farming: A biologist explains how aquaculture could become [the most sustainable and efficient way](#) of feeding the globe's rapidly



There's a competition in Japan

increasing population.

Ticks: The Asian Longhorned Tick was recently discovered in Missouri. The [CDC published a guide](#) on information to know about this tick variety.

that's reminiscent of the Westminister Dog Show, where [beef cattle are celebrated](#) for their beauty, breeding, and other attributes.

Food Science and Safety News

Best Before: As awareness grows around the world about the problem of food waste, one culprit in particular is drawing scrutiny: "[best before](#)" labels. In October 2015, CAST released [Process Labeling of Food: Consumer Behavior, the Agricultural Sector, and Policy Recommendations](#).



Hurricanes and Fruit: It might be a week before Hurricane Ian's impacts are fully known, but some Florida farmers are [stating that Ian has been worse](#) than Hurricane Irma in 2017.

A [Kansas State University](#) food scientist recommends canning or freezing tomatoes depending on ripeness and variety.

Foodborne Tick-borne Encephalitis: Vaccination programs and public awareness campaigns could reduce the number of people affected by tick-borne encephalitis virus, [which is sometimes foodborne](#).

Plant Agriculture and Environmental News

Megadrought: A 23-year megadrought is [endangering the agricultural economy](#) in the Southwest United States.



Sulfur Shortage: A recent study examined the shift in sulfur supplies and the [potential impact of sulfur shortages](#).

Commercial barge traffic on southern stretches of the Mississippi River are [occasionally at a standstill](#) as low water levels halt shipments of grain, fertilizer, and other commodities.

Soybean Varieties: Researchers at the Arkansas Agricultural Experiment Station are working to [breed modern soybean varieties](#) that don't fix nitrogen to hopefully help reverse the observed decline in soybean protein content.

International News

GM Corn in Mexico: While uncertainty remains over the likelihood of Mexico following through on a [ban of genetically modified corn](#), agriculture officials and trade groups are continuing discussions with Mexican leaders to show the negative impacts of such a ban. The U.S. corn sector would see an [economic loss of \\$3.56 billion](#) in the first year of the ban.



GM Crops in Kenya: Kenya's new president says the Cabinet has "effectively" [lifted the country's ban](#)

Reducing the gender gap in Ethiopian farming households [can enhance climate change](#)

on openly cultivating genetically modified crops, reversing a decade-old decision as the East African country struggles with food insecurity and a deadly drought.

[adaptation](#) by female-headed households by almost 19%.

General Interest News

Disaster Resource Center: The USDA provides a [Disaster Resource Center](#) that can be useful to those fleeing recent Hurricane Ian or other disasters and emergencies.

New Legislation: Legislation has been introduced in the U.S. Senate to make [foreign individuals and entities ineligible](#) to obtain financial services through the Farm Credit System.

Unionization Law: A Californian governor [approved a farmworker unionization law](#).



A new study shows that dogs can differentiate breath and sweat samples from people before and after a stress-inducing task.

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Far Side from explore.org. Animal from National Competitive Exhibition of Wagyu. Plant from Successful Farming. International from ICARDA. General from futurity.org. Unless otherwise noted, photos courtesy of the USDA Agricultural Research Service, Constant Contact, or CAST.

Societies, Companies, and Nonprofit Organizations Serving on the CAST Board of Representatives

- * 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 Crop Science
- * Corteva Agriscience
- * CropLife America
- * 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
- * Nutrien
- * Penn State University
- * Poultry Science Association
- * 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

- * Crop Science Society of America
- * Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy
- * Iowa State University
- * Minor Use Foundation, Inc.

- * 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
- * Iowa State University
- * Kansas State University
- * Mississippi State University
- * North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University
- * North Carolina State University
- * Penn State University
- * Purdue University Libraries and School of Information Studies
- * Texas A&M University College of Ag & Life Sciences
- * The Ohio State University
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The Science Source for Food,
 Agricultural, and Environmental Issues

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