



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

The University of Kentucky Martin-Gatton College of Agriculture, Food and Environment will offer the [2023 Corn, Soybean and Tobacco Field Day](#) on July 25.

The [Nevada Small Agriculture Conference](#) will be held Aug. 25-26 at the Santa Fe Station in Las Vegas.

CAST College Corner

[North Carolina State University](#) researchers use CRISPR to increase lignin in trees.

The Ohio State CFAES-hosted [Dean's Charity Steer Show](#), benefitting the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Central Ohio, is set for Aug. 1.

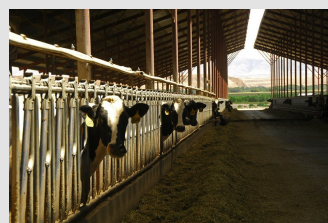
CAST Social Media

Visit our website

July 14, 2023

Greener Cows for the Future

Sustainability is an important driver for the agricultural industry. Dr. Juan Tricarico, Senior Vice President of Environmental Research for [Dairy Management Inc.](#), knows



better than most the challenges that come with shaping agriculture for a sustainable future.

Dairy Management Inc. focuses mainly on promoting milk as an important commodity. Most recently Tricarico has concentrated on [enteric methane](#) and greenhouse gas emissions in the dairy industry. This work has been important for capturing data and impacts of dairy nutrition on overall green house gas emissions.

Working with the [Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research \(FFAR\)](#), Tricarico's work has also lead to [developing funding programs for future research](#). This included establishing the Greener Cattle Initiative, which is an industry collaborative created to support research that enables enteric methane mitigation. Tricarico sees opportunities to collaborate for future funding as an essential part of growing sustainability within the dairy industry.

News and Views

USDA Updates: The USDA (1) requests public comment on the [Federal Strategy to Advance Greenhouse Gas Measurement and Monitoring for the Agriculture and Forest Sectors](#); (2) confirmed [Xochitl Torres Small](#) as Deputy Secretary; and (3) published its most recent [World Agricultural Supply and Demand Estimates](#) (WASDE) report.

Views: [In this article](#), Cathy Burns, International Fresh Produce Association, and Andy LaVigne, American



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

Seed Trade Association, share their opinion that the US, once a world leader in innovation, is now falling behind in this area.

Far Side of the Barn (In Honor of Former *Friday Notes* Editor Dan Gogerty's Birthday!)

Naked Mole-Rats. A Cornell University study unlocks clues in the mystery of naked mole-rats' exceptional fertility. (Photo courtesy of [John Brighenti/Wikimedia Commons 2.0 Generic License](#).)



CAST Updates

CAST Member Highlights: National Pork Board



The [National Pork Board](#) recently announced a five-year initiative called "[The Real Pork Trust Consortium](#)." In partnership with five universities, they will focus on consumer questions and concerns around the pork industry's [We Care® Ethical Principle](#).

University experts in science communication, animal science, animal welfare, veterinary medicine, meat sciences, product safety, nutrition, and more will focus on three key areas to build consumer trust. This includes research around consumer questions about pork and pork production; creating communications that consumers find relatable and easy to understand; and empowering people to share research-based information about the pork industry.

Universities involved in the initiative include Iowa State University, the University of Georgia, North Carolina State University, the North Carolina A&T State University, and the University of Minnesota. More information on the consortium's plans and approach will be available sometime this fall through [porkcheckoff.org](#). (Image provided by the National Pork Board.)

Animal Agriculture and Environmental News

PASTEUR Act: A Biotechnology Innovation Organization member explains why the [PASTEUR Act](#) is needed to fight Antimicrobial superbugs.

Understanding ASF Spread: NCSU researchers used a computer model to understand how [African swine fever \(ASF\)](#) might spread among swine farms in the southeastern US.

Pinkeye in Cattle: [Pinkeye in cattle](#) can lead to blindness if left untreated, according to K-State veterinarians.



New research shows that [carriers of bluetongue virus stay active all year round](#).

Food Science and Safety News

Lab Grown Meat: The National Geographic explores what makes up [lab-grown meat](#), and how it could impact future consumers. Check out the CAST paper, "[Producing Food Products from Cultured Animal Tissues](#)," published April 2020.

Food Labels: [Food labels](#) may offer consumer choices but also confusion around animal welfare, notes Purdue University professor. Check out the CAST paper, "[Process Labeling of Food: Consumer Behavior, the Agricultural Sector, and Policy Recommendations](#)," published October 2015.



Empty office buildings are being [converted into vertical farms](#).

Plant Agriculture and Environmental News

New Species: University researchers have discovered a [new species of wasp](#) that might prove beneficial to managing soybean gall midge.

Trees: [Genetically modified trees](#) could mean more sustainable wood in the future.

Plant Cells: Penn State researchers [identify protein that creates cellulose in plants](#).



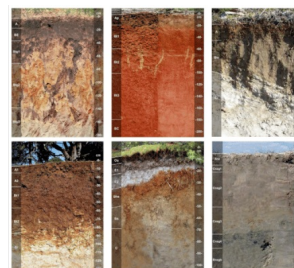
A massive deposit of phosphate rock [has been discovered in Norway](#), containing enough minerals to meet global demand for the next 50 years.

International News

Russia: Russia's threat to halt Ukraine grain exports [raises fears about global food security](#).

Nigeria: A Cornell University Hubert H. Humphrey Fellow works to pioneer innovative solutions that address rural poverty and food loss through [Nigerian tomato farmers](#).

Asia: Experts raise concern as [South Asia struggles to address hunger as inflation increases](#).



The UN FAO releases the first [Soil Atlas of Asia](#), hoping to encourage education and discussion about the region.

General Interest

Earthworms: An invasive [jumping earthworm](#) has been spotted in the Midwest.

Listen (audio): A discussion recorded at the 2023 ADSA Annual Meeting looks at [lessons learned from the 2022 infant formula crisis](#).



Watermelon Crop: [Florida watermelon growers](#) sold a bumper crop this year and lead the nation in production, according to the University of Florida experts.

Plants [cry out for help](#) when feeling stressed, according to a recent study (video).

Photo Credits

Unless otherwise noted, photos courtesy of the USDA Agricultural Research Service, Constant Contact, or CAST.

Phosphate photo from techspot.com.

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

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
- * University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture
- * University of California-Davis
- * University of Florida Institute of Food and Agricultural Sciences
- * University of Georgia
- * University of Illinois College of Agricultural, Consumer and Environmental Sciences
- * University of Kentucky
- * University of Missouri-Columbia

Information Studies

* Texas A&M University College of Ag & Life Sciences

* The Ohio State University

* Tuskegee University

* University of Nebraska Agricultural Research

Division

* University of Nevada-Reno College of Agriculture,
Biotechnology and Natural Resources

Contact CAST:

cast@cast-science.org

The Council for Agricultural Science and Technology

4420 West Lincoln Way

Ames, Iowa 50014-3447

Phone: 515-292-2125



The Science Source for Food,
Agricultural, and Environmental Issues

CAST provides Friday Notes as a benefit to its members. Please do not forward, edit, copy, or distribute the Notes in any form to nonmembers without the express permission of the CAST CEO/EVP Kent Schescke (kschescke@cast-science.org). Instead, please encourage your colleagues to join CAST and thereby become eligible for all membership benefits. Contact Colleen Hamilton at 515-292-2125 or chamilton@cast-science.org, or [CLICK HERE](#) for CAST membership information.

Council for Agricultural Science and Technology

[\[www.cast-science.org\]](http://www.cast-science.org)

