



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](#)

College Corner

([Listen](#)) [Mississippi State University](#) is launching a new ag autonomy institute focusing on how to support the autonomous industry. CAST 2023 President-Elect, Alex Thomasson, discusses the exciting new program.

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

July 28, 2023

Eat Your Veggies!

According to the [University of Nebraska-Lincoln](#), it is National Salad Week! Before you dive into some fresh veggies during your next meal, it's worth considering where your vegetables come from. In 2022 the [United States utilized 2.16 million acres to grow 26 various vegetable crops](#). These crops are used for domestic and export markets, creating \$16.5 billion in revenue.



In addition to being an essential crop for farmers across the United States and the world, consider the USDA's recently published research that [increasing your daily consumption of vegetables can improve your mental health](#). A balanced diet can have many positive benefits on overall health, but these findings show that eating the recommended serving of vegetables can also improve a person's mood.

Vegetable production is becoming increasingly important to many states, including Maryland. The [Maryland Department of Agriculture's Resilient Food Systems Infrastructure](#) is investing in different sectors of agriculture to make its systems more resilient. This model not only helps farmers and consumers, but also allows flexibility in the system as it faces challenges in the future.

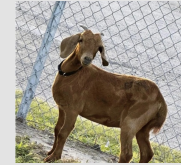
News and Views

USDA Updates: The USDA (1) [announced investments in Research](#), Extension and 1890 Land

Grant Universities; 2) released recommendations on [food safety for packing back-to-school lunches](#); and 3) [Released a study on concentration and competition](#) in agribusiness (audio).

Far Side of the Barn

Gone Goat: The search for [a rodeo goat that has been missing for more than a week](#) has the residents of a rural south Texas county enthralled.



CAST Updates

New PSA Representative Joins CAST



CAST is so pleased to announce that Dr. Chasity Pender, Senior Technical Manager–Poultry with dsm-firmenich, is the new CAST Representative for the Poultry Science Association (PSA), serving on the Animal Work Group. “I am excited to be joining such a knowledgeable and distinguished scientific community and representing all my feather friends!” says Pender.

PSA also just hosted a very successful annual meeting in mid-July in Philadelphia for over 1,100 poultry science professionals and students. The 511 abstract presentations and 82 symposium presentations covered topics on poultry meat research, digital tools for optimizing performance and profitability, immunology, physiology and reproduction, microbiology, and other related areas of poultry science. Learn more [here](#).



Animal Agriculture and Environmental News

Where Bees Come From: Honeybees in some areas of Arkansas have [a direct, genetic link to the first European honeybees](#) brought to America in the 17th century.

Sweltering Heat: Here are [five recommended practices](#) for keeping livestock safe and comfortable this time of year.

Communicating Science: Animal agricultural organizations are [teaming up to combat misinformation](#) and share science about animal agriculture.



Spreading Value: For most crops, farmers [use manure from their own farm](#) or at no cost from other farms.

Food Science and Safety News

Plant-Based Milk: While plant-based milk is gaining popularity, [research shows the true nutrition comparison to cow's milk.](#)

Wild Boar: As wild boars take over parts of the US, [chefs aim to put this meat on the map.](#)

Nutrition Labels: Experts examine what consumers really [understand from nutrition labels](#) (audio).



Fighting Dementia: [Including olive oil in your regular diet](#) offers several health benefits.

Plant Agriculture and Environmental News

Heirloom Corn: [Heirloom corn is making its return to the mountains of Mexico](#) as farmers use native varieties in the next crop year.

Climate Change: New AI technology could help in [finding solutions for mitigating climate change and preserving biodiversity.](#)

EPA's Proposed Herbicide Regulations: [Here's what you need to know.](#)



Set to Bake: Portions of the Midwest [could see the most challenging weather](#) yet this year, and it's creating more concerns for crop conditions.

International News

Ukraine: The EU works to find ways to [provide Ukrainian grain worldwide.](#) While Russia is using food security as a weapon in the war, [agribusiness promises hope.](#)

Africa: New technology helps [farmers in Africa get the equipment they need.](#)

China: China's next [anti-corruption campaign](#) is targeted at its seed industry.



Global Grain Supplies: Local officials say [more than 60,000 metric tons](#) of grain have been destroyed in the past week.

General Interest

Urban Agriculture: The USDA announces [investments in urban agriculture, food, and market access.](#)

Frozen Vegetables: The [average shelf price for](#)

[frozen veggies](#) rose by 18% in the past year—the largest increase among all grocery items.

Swept Away: Farmers in several [Northeast states face a devastating blow](#) at the worst possible time after recent flooding.



Lab-grown Techniques:
Considered new by many, [scientists have actually been culturing animal cells in artificial environments](#) since the 1950s.

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Provided by John Payne.

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- * American Farm Bureau Federation
- * American Meat Science Association
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- * American Seed Trade Association
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- * American Society of Agronomy
- * American Society of Animal Science
- * American Society of Plant Biologists
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- * Minor Use Foundation, Inc.
- * Mississippi State University
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- * 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
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- * 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

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