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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 the CAST organization.

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[The Legacy of Norman Borlaug and the Important Contributions of CAST's Members--P. 2](#)

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Eclipse Apps



Many [free apps can help](#) with timing, location, weather, and more for the solar eclipse on Aug. 21.

Some ag scientists will be [monitoring animals and plants during the event](#).

Eat This and Die

Charlie Arnot, CEO of the Center for Food Integrity, suggests two steps to outsmart media [marketing that capitalizes on the fear of food](#).

4-H, Google, and Tech

4-H and Google have announced a new program to [bring computer education and problem-solving skills](#) to more than 100,000 members across the country.

Future of Food-Tech Summit

Investors, scientists, and food makers gathered to talk about what's

August 18, 2017

Science, Innovation, and Behavior

Jayson Lusk supports science and innovation, but he thinks the agriculture community needs to be realistic about human nature. In his presentation, [Importance of Understanding Behavioral Responses to Food and Health Policies](#), Lusk uses examples and statistics to show why some products and practices face roadblocks, and he advocates "consumer-focused innovation." As he says, "We need to get farmers and consumers excited." Lusk is head of the agricultural economics department at Purdue University and the [2017 winner](#) of the Borlaug CAST Communication Award.



Lusk's speech was part of a Town Hall held at the National Academy of Science Building in Washington, D.C., on August 8. [Click here for more presentations](#), including insights from Ronnie Green of the University of Nebraska, Barbara Schneeman of UC-Davis, James Jones of the University of Florida, and Rattan Lal of The Ohio

State University.

News and Views

NAFTA Negotiations: The top U.S. trade negotiator [opened the historic renegotiation](#) of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) by saying the pact has failed many Americans despite its benefits for agriculture. This article [looks at key issues](#) facing negotiators. Ag groups and other organizations issued [statements with a variety of viewpoints](#).

SNAP and the Farm Bill: This legislator says the biggest problem facing congressional Farm Bill negotiators--beyond financing--is going to be what to do with [SNAP, the federal nutrition program](#) that used to be called food stamps. A related article says the Farm Bill has a wide scope that [includes forestry, energy, and conservation programs](#).

behind the [trends in food innovation and investment](#).

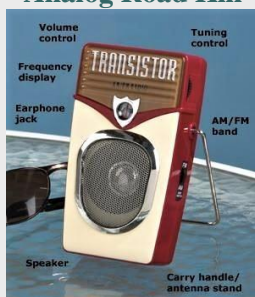
Fellowship Awards

Three Ohio State Univ. faculty members received [Borlaug International Agricultural Science and Technology](#) Fellowship Program awards.

Waste--Away!

Cal Poly's Food Science and Nutrition Department has been awarded a large USDA [grant to study food waste challenges](#).

Analog Road Kill



The digital revolution on the farm has sent plenty of [items to the analog graveyard](#).

CAST Social Media

Click here for [links to CAST sites](#):
Twitter, Facebook, LinkedIn,
Pinterest, videos, and blogs.

Trade Updates: [South Korea has formally opened its market](#) to U.S. poultry and eggs after imposing a ban in March over U.S. cases of highly pathogenic avian influenza. [Argentina will allow](#) U.S. fresh, chilled, and frozen pork and pork products across its borders for the first time since 1992.

WOTUS and the EPA: The Environmental Protection Agency has [extended the deadline to submit comments](#) on the Waters of the U.S. (WOTUS) Rule repeal effort.

Gene Editing--Medical Gains and Public Concerns: Scientists are overcoming key barriers to [transplanting pig organs into people](#). This article explains that CRISPR is now used to [slice virus genes out of pigs](#). Americans are becoming [more open to human genome editing](#)--according to this survey--but concerns remain.

News from the Far Side of the Barn

The Goose Whisperer

(video): This farmer took in orphaned geese and is [training them to fly with the flock](#).



Hungry, Hungry Hippo

(video): This short clip shows why you [don't mess with an adult hippo](#)--even if you're a lion.



Shadow Boxing (video): A Corgi and a chicken have a [spirited sparring match](#) until a bossy duck butts in.

Celebrate Members Month

Dr. Baltensperger points to "the legacy of Norman Borlaug"

On August 31, 1971, seven societies voted to become members of the Council for Agricultural Science and Technology--one being the Crop Science Society of America. "I can say that a part of that team saw great value in becoming a CAST member because they believed in the same goal as Dr. Norman Borlaug," stated Dr. David Baltensperger, a professor and department head of soil and crop sciences at Texas A&M University. That goal was to develop a vehicle that would provide information for decision makers and the general public by sharing the value in explaining new technologies that were coming on board to feed the world.

Baltensperger states that he joined as an individual member of CAST "once upon a time" because he felt that agriculture in general was much more than just the field that he was connected to. "All who are involved in the agricultural industry need to come together as scientists and agriculturalists to help make credible, science-based information readily available to the public. CAST is the perfect organization to serve as the leading force of this undertaking."

[Click here to access the entire blog.](#)



"The Soil Science Society of America is a re-newed member of CAST's Board of Representatives, but I am so sold on the value of a CAST membership that I have my own membership as well."

Dr. Mary Beth Adams - Research Soil Scientist

Friday Notes News Categories

Photos courtesy of the Agricultural Research Service (top masthead); TopLatest News (globe at right). P. 1 Lusk pic from youtube.com, sun pic from shared.com, radio pic from pinterest.com, and goose pic from cnn.com. Animal Sec. top cow pic from gannett-cdn.com and bottom cow pic from agdaily.com. Food Sec. infograph from usda.com. Plant Sec. money tree pic from thepepperbox.com. Inter. Sec. bear pic from grizzly.jpg. Gen. Sec. man pic from sanluisobispo.com. Unless otherwise noted, photos courtesy of the USDA Agricultural Research Service.



Animal Agriculture and Environmental News

Pig Farming in the Spotlight (video and podcast interview):

This Illinois hog farmer and his farm star in a popular "360 video" explaining [current pig production techniques](#).

Animal Welfare Issue: A recent review of an [embattled federal research facility](#) in Nebraska prompts renewed criticism.

A Robot Is Milking My Cow (podcast): This University of Nebraska article looks at how [dairy farming in the Midwest is changing](#), as more farmers incorporate automated milking technology.

Poultry and Biosecurity: This poultry veterinarian and university specialist looks at [biosecurity measures used to protect animals](#), farm workers, and food products.



Chillin' out [at the fair with a friend](#).



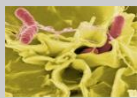
Pigs, Fairs, and the Flu: A researcher at The Ohio State University has been conducting a multistate study [testing for influenza viruses among pigs](#) at county agricultural fairs.

State Fair winners--in several impressive ways.

Chicken Imports Up for Debate: Groups for and against the USDA's [proposal to allow China to export cooked chicken to the U.S.](#) are weighing in with their opinions as the comment deadline ends.

Detecting Swine Disease: Researchers at the University of Wyoming and Texas A&M received a grant to develop a more accurate diagnostic [test for detection of swine brucellosis](#).

What's the Buzz? (video): According to this entertaining video, bees buzz to aid [pollination, communication, and eating](#). Check out the CAST Commentary about [the science surrounding bee health](#).



Food Science and Safety News

Claiming a Steak--or Three (video): This clip explains [the nature of three steak cuts](#) and shows how to prepare them.

Antimicrobial Spray: An [edible nano coating sprayed on produce](#) might be able to prolong postharvest shelf life--and possibly provide additional nutrients.

Making the Impossible Possible: The Impossible Burger wouldn't be possible without genetic engineering, and it is [causing a stir in some foodie circles](#).

Grocerants: Many [supermarkets are adding sit-down restaurants](#), and the trend is changing how food retail and food service work together.

Ultrafiltered Milk (opinion): The International Dairy Foods Association commended the FDA for granting enforcement discretion for [the use and labeling of ultrafiltered milk](#) in standardized cheeses and related cheese products.

Waste Not: According to Food Tank, these [12 food tech solutions](#) are working to reduce food waste.

Research and Insights (related to above): CAST and the University of Pennsylvania teamed up to publish this [book about many aspects of food waste](#)--*Food Waste Across the Supply Chain: A U.S. Perspective on a Global Problem*.



Safety in the bag--as school gears up, the USDA [provides food safety tips](#).



Plant Agriculture and Environmental News

Efficient Irrigation (video): These researchers are developing [methods to make on-farm irrigation as efficient as possible](#)--for farmers and the environment.

How 'Bout Them Apples: Geneticists have traced the [apple's lineage all the way to the Silk Road](#)--wild and cultivated apples from China to North America.

Boosting Blackberries: University of Arkansas researchers are looking at the potential for an innovative trellis system to [increase overall blackberry production](#) in the state.

Kudzu Bugs and Soybeans: For the first time, [verified sightings of kudzu bug](#) adults and egg masses have been detected on Maryland soybeans.

Researching Cotton Pests: A Mississippi State University doctoral student seeks a [correlation between two cotton pests](#).

The Best Wheat for the Situation: Kansas State University researchers have [developed three new wheat varieties](#) best suited for different growing conditions and available for the first time this year.



Money grows on trees? Cities [gain millions of dollars from urban forests](#) in ways that are not always obvious.



International News

Electrofishing (video): The Netherlands is testing a [new fishing technique--using electric currents](#). Electrofishing is controversial and banned by the EU, but it can be used on an experimental basis.

Corn on the Move: U.S. [corn exports to Japan](#) are up 48% compared to the same time the year prior.

British Pork to China: The UK pig industry received a boost as [China approved the exports of pork meat](#) from seven more UK suppliers.

Innovative Methods for a Shrinking Sector: Younger tech-savvy farmers are transforming Japan's shrinking agriculture sector with [cutting-edge techniques and marketing strategies](#).

Digital Farmers in Myanmar: Farmers are beginning to reap the benefits of the [rapid growth in mobile phone use in Myanmar](#) through apps that are providing them with a wealth of information.

Golden Rice Update: After more than a decade of rigorous scientific testing and extensive research trials amid opposition by anti-GMO groups, [Golden Rice is moving closer](#) to the marketplace in the Philippines.



British Columbia will [no longer allow the trophy hunting of grizzly bears](#) in the Canadian province.



General Interest News

The Disappearing Midsize Farm (opinion): The average farm is growing larger, fewer farmers are doing the job, and midsize farms are disappearing. [How do these trends affect the country?](#)

Waters of the U.S.--an Overview: This Texas A&M blog [provides an overview of WOTUS](#)--a new administration means changes are occurring.

Fires, Ag, and Federal Aid: Wildfires have swept across Montana, and one outcome has been the [destruction of grazing feed for beef cattle](#). A debate now burns about the federal aid situation for ranchers.

Drones and Climate Change: According to this Cornell University article, drone technology offers [potential new ways to manage](#) climate change.

Biohacking: The use of [DNA for handling computer information](#) is slowly becoming a reality, according to this scientist. Some worry that computers will be hacked.



Farm Bot: A Cal Poly graduate [describes his invention as a 3-D printer](#)--with seed injectors, watering nozzles, plows, sensors, and more.

CAST Information

Check out CAST's page at the [YouTube site](#) to view highly regarded ag-science videos about probiotics, food safety, and water issues--or the latest video dealing with proposed mandatory labeling of GMO food items.



If you have a good idea for a CAST publication, contact us by [clicking HERE for the "Proposal Format](#) and Background Information Form."

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Contact Colleen Hamilton at 515-292-2125, ext. 224 or chamilton@cast-science.org, or [CLICK HERE](#) for CAST membership information.

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- * 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 for Nutrition Nutritional Sciences Council
- * 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
- * Aquatic Plant Management Society
- * BASF Corporation
- * Croplife America
- * Crop Science Society of America
- * DuPont
- * Elanco Animal Health
- * Entomological Society of America
- * Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy
- * Land O'Lakes
- * Monsanto

- * National Corn Growers Association/Iowa Corn Promotion Board
- * National Milk Producers Federation
- * National Pork Board
- * North Carolina Biotechnology Center
- * North Central Weed Science Society
- * Northeastern Weed Science Society
- * Poultry Science Association
- * Society for In Vitro Biology
- * Soil Science Society of America
- * Syngenta Crop Protection
- * The Fertilizer Institute
- * Tyson Foods
- * United Soybean Board
- * Weed Science Society of America
- * Western Society of Weed Science

CAST assembles, interprets, and communicates credible, science-based information regionally, nationally, and internationally to legislators, regulators, policymakers, the media, the private sector, and the public.

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- * University of Nevada



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