



Educate, Elevate and Advocate for Agriculture!

Launch of our Letter Writing Campaign



Congratulations to Nicquole Knapp our new Texas State President!

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

All states received prospective membership packages thanks to Colorado WIFE for getting those assembled. Please reach out to your friends in agriculture and encourage them to join. We are adding members resources daily so your voice can be heard quickly and easily.

Join Now and your membership will not expire until December 2023!

Hi, Ladies, I hope you are having a very prosperous summer in spite of the crazy weather. Members were mailed out bags with letterhead, pens, and notepads to move forward in launching our letter writing campaign.

The first issue of support will be requesting legislative support for S.2716 and H.R. 7291 for labeling of your beef. This initiative is being spearheaded by R-Calf who has agreed to provide us all the tools we need to be informed as

we move forward.

As consumers become aware of the true facts, they are concerned and seem anxious to support the MCOOL Legislation.

Most consumers have no idea of the process of breeding, raising, and producing quality beef for consumption. They also are unaware the majority of the profit in beef has been going to the packers, not the producers. Together, we can continue to inform them of the facts.

Letters to the editor

are good ways to get your message out to consumers. Please see member resources for links and additional information and campaign dates. Additional information is at nationalwife.org under BEEF.

Your dedication and support in this campaign is greatly appreciated. This education process can and will make a difference to family farm producers across the USA. Thank you!

Belinda Sturges

National WIFE President

Texas GOP stands against 30 x 30

At the 2022 State Convention of the Republican Party of Texas held in June, a resolution was advanced and added to the Party's platform that opposes President Biden's 30x30 program. [Policy Statement # 57 reads:](#)

"We oppose environmentalism that obstructs legitimate business interests and private property use, including the regulatory taking of property by governmental agencies. We oppose the abuse of the Endangered Species Act to confiscate and limit the use of personal property and to infringe on a property owner's livelihood. We support the defunding of "climate justice" initiatives, the abolition of the Environmental Protection Agency, and repeal of the Endangered Species Act, and we oppose the "America the Beautiful" Initiative, also known as the 30 x 30 program."

Women Involved in Farm Economics

Beef Commodity Report by Jennifer Jones



Cattle producers are taking a giant step in leveraging their hand in the packing industry by building Producer Owned Beef, a state-of-the-art beef processing facility in Amarillo, Texas. The facility will be owned by cattle producers and operated by beef processing industry veterans. The project received a big boost when Texas Governor Greg Abbott announced on Wednesday that the state's Texas Enterprise Fund is awarding Producer Owned Beef a grant of \$12.232 Million. The Governor's Enter-

prise Fund \$12.232 million announcement complements the Amarillo City Council's unanimous decision to authorize Amarillo Economic Development Corporation (AEDC) incentives for Producer Owned Beef, LLC to build its new headquarters in Amarillo. Along with infrastructure improvements, the AEDC and City of Amarillo approved incentives of up to \$11.1 million to establish the state-of-the-art facility -- a \$670 million capital investment. The facility, designed to process 3,000-plus head of cattle per day, aims to employ nearly 1,600 people

from the High Plains region.

Casey Cameron, CEO of Producer Owned Beef and a lifelong cattle producer, echoed the importance of the support from both entities. "The importance of Texas Enterprise Fund along with Amarillo EDC backing for this project cannot be overstated. Public-Private Partnerships are proven to attract additional investors and create a virtuous cycle of commerce, employment and tax revenue for our communities and state. Our commitment is to build and operate a beef processing facility that stands out from the rest of the industry in ani-

mal well-being, environmental protections, team member safety and ergonomics, and the highest quality beef products."

Producer Owned Beef's business model includes producers receiving wholesale beef prices for the cattle they supply and a share of the profits from the plant.

"Many of our ranchers and feeders are third-, fourth- or even fifth-generation producers who have invested their lives in feeding Americans," said Monte Cluck, a Producer Owned Beef Board Member. "With this model, where producers are also owners, we're creating economic sustainability for small and medium-sized producers by ensuring they receive a greater share of the financial upside for the hard work they do."

The plant is expected to break ground in the first quarter of 2023, with the goal of being fully operable by fall of 2025.

For more information, including the executive team and goals of the project, visit www.producerownedbeef.com.

Article courtesy of The Cattle Range

U.S. Beef Imports By Country

U.S. Beef Imports		1,561,122,000	1,843,841,000	18.11%
Rank	Country	Jan - June 2021	Jan - June 2022	Change
1	Canada	439,955,000	462,988,000	5.24%
2	Mexico	318,073,000	390,652,000	22.82%
3	Brazil	137,652,000	337,709,000	145.34%
4	New Zealand	277,098,000	243,658,000	-12.07%
5	Australia	186,444,000	194,148,000	4.13%
6	Nicaragua	86,753,000	93,298,000	7.54%
7	Uruguay	69,540,000	66,554,000	-4.29%
8	Argentina	20,331,000	31,136,000	53.15%
9	Costa Rica	12,300,000	7,801,000	-36.58%
10	Ireland	8,467,000	5,950,000	-29.73%
11	Netherlands	2,101,000	4,915,000	133.94%
12	United Kingdom	0	2,422,000	NA
13	Japan	1,536,000	1,802,000	17.32%
14	France	369,000	627,000	69.92%
15	Turkey	0	165,000	NA
16	Croatia	15,000	14,000	-6.67%
17	Lithuania	1,000	2,000	100.00%

Source: ERS/USDA (pounds) -Rob Cook, robcookkc@gmail.com

Women Involved in Farm Economics

Dairy Report by Chair Chris Anken

Each year in July we celebrate National Ice Cream Month, became law in 1984. National Ice Cream Day is celebrated on the third Sunday in July, in the United States. It all began with a Joint resolution 298 in the United States Senate, which was sponsored by Senator Walter Dee Huddleston of Kentucky on May 17, 1984, and Joint resolution 543 in the United States House of Representatives, which was sponsored by Representative Kika De La Garza of Texas on April 11, 1984. The Month of July 1984 was proclaimed by resolution as "National Ice Cream Month" and July 15, 1984 was proclaimed by resolution as "National Ice Cream Day". These two Joint resolutions became public law on July 9, 1984 when President Ronald Reagan signed the Presidential Proclamation 5219.

In America the average American eats roughly 4 gallons or 20 pounds of ice cream each year. When summer reaches hot temperatures in July Americans are celebrating National Ice Cream Month for a way to cool off; and enjoying the nation's favorite frozen treat across American with family and friends throughout their Communities. According to a survey, most ice cream companies are family owned and have been in business for more than 50 years. Not only do ice cream companies help support the U.S. Economy, contributing more than \$13

billion directly to the national economy and supporting about 29,000 direct jobs which generates \$1.8 billion in wages. 1.3 Billions gallons of ice cream was churned in the U.S. in 2021; and was not including homemade ice cream people make on their own. Ice Cream has a much more ancient history; Beginning forms earliest form holds very little resemblance to the ice cream we eat today. Biblical passages refer to King Solomon enjoying refreshing cooling iced drinks during harvest season; and Alexander the Great of ancient Greece loved to indulge in icy drinks flavored with wine or honey. Ice was harvested from nearby mountains and held in ice houses with deep pits covered with straw was done during Nero's reign of Rome from 54 to 68 BC. In lieu of refrigeration, this practice of keeping ice would be common for centuries to come.

It is impossible to say how ice cream reached America, but it more than likely arrived with European settlers in the early 1700s. By the 1700s, several books on confectionery had been produced and included recipes for ices and ice cream. Treats to guests in the shape of vegetables, fruits and animals, thanks to special ice cream molds; made and served by housewives back then. In 1790, The first ice cream parlor opened in New

York in 1790. During the summer of 1770, our first president, George Washington, had spent \$200 to satisfy his craving for the refreshing ice cream treat. He owned several ice cream pots made from tin and pewter; from Inventory records of his Mt. Vernon home. Thomas Jefferson is said to have kept several ice houses, holding up to 62 wagonloads of ice, along with large amounts of ice cream. Even the Lincolns had a fond taste for ice cream. Abraham Lincoln, before and during his presidency, and his wife Mary Todd frequently hosted strawberry parties for friends in both Springfield, Illinois and Washington to celebrate strawberry berry season. Fresh ripe strawberries were served with cake and ice cream. That is still a popular special treat; all those Church Ice Cream Socials with Strawberry Sundaes.

Ice Cream history spans worldwide and over centuries, Ice Cream is very popular in America, becoming one of the most popular desserts in the United States. 9% of American cow's milk production is dedicated to ice cream. The most traditionally American dessert is Apple Pie with Vanilla Ice Cream. Our Amish friends favorite Ice Cream is vanilla; and also my oldest Grandson, Jack's favorite. My husband and my Grandkids love Ice Cream.

Remember the most



popular phrase; You scream! I scream! We all scream for ice cream! For most Americans, the phrase Ice Cream brings back special memories of summer, like melting ice cream cones, banana splits, hot fudge sundaes, root beer floats, and buying just one scoop of ice cream to enjoy. What a way to end a hay making day with a root beer float. Of course you need ice cream with birthday cakes and other special occasions.. At one time, at the drug store you could buy it and it only cost a dime. Ice cream of course is the ultimate old fashioned treat, that has been around for a long time. Ice Cream has a very worldly history that stretches all around the globe. So before July ends, go out and get your favorite Ice Cream and Celebrate National Ice Cream Month with friends and family; and enjoy the rest of the Summer, and rest year round with a special treat of ice cream. God Bless our American Farmers and Ranchers.



Women Involved in Farm Economics

Energy Commodity Report by Chair Marlene Kouba



The OPEC oil cartel and allied countries including Russia will raise production by 648,000 barrels per day in July and August or about 50 percent to offer some relief from soaring energy prices and inflation. The decision on June 2 steps up the pace by the alliance. The group had been adding a steady 432,000 barrels per day each month to gradually restore production cuts from 2020. Saudi Arabia has resisted pleas from the White House to increase their oil supply.

Gasoline prices have hit a record high in the United States. U.S. crude was traded at \$116.23 on June 2. They are up 54 percent and prices at the pump have increased with it. Average price per gallon of gas was \$4.71 on June 2 but could go higher.

The California Air Resources Board is now focusing on gas furnaces and hot water heaters. But they say expansion to natural-gas stoves and clothes dryers would eliminate 30 tons of greenhouse gases every single day. Existing homes could still use their gas appliances but all new appliances sold in California would be zero-emission by 2035 for installation in homes and by 2045 for installation in commercial buildings. So if a gas appliance breaks, it

would be replaced by an electric alternative. Electricity can't create the sustained high heat needed for fryers and can't quickly heat 200 gallon hot water heaters required by health departments. When the state has rolling blackouts and cannot meet the demand now, how will it give the extra power to restaurants and hotels when that happens next?

In June the President called on the seven U.S. oil refiners to produce more gasoline and diesel while saying their profits have tripled during the war with Ukraine. He demanded to know why the flow of gas has been restricted from the market. He said gas prices were \$4.25 a gallon when oil was last near the price of \$120 a barrel in March so the 75 cent difference to current \$5.00 in a few months reflects a shortage of refinery capacity and higher profits. The American Petroleum Institute said capacity has diminished as he moved away from fossil fuels. Oil executives say they are getting mixed signals—drill more oil wells or we will tax you, drill less wells because of climate change. They say that relying on foreign oil imports while pretending to use wind and solar is not a feasible strategy.

The Supreme Court ruled in July that the EPA doesn't have the authori-

ty to regulate greenhouse emissions from power plants as they have been doing under the Clean Air Act. President Obama's Clean Power Act required states to reduce emissions from the generation of electricity by shifting away from coal-fired plants. President Trump repealed it. President Biden aims to cut the nation's emissions in half by the end of the decade and to have an emission-free power sector by 2035 saying they account for about 30 percent of carbon dioxide output. EPA has announced that home-grown renewable fuel provides an affordable option at the pump, while reducing greenhouse gas emissions. With wholesale prices for ethanol lower than gasoline in many regions of the country increased blending should lead to lower prices at the pump. Ethanol and biodiesel are important as we face global uncertainties.

Energy prices for home heating and air conditioning have skyrocketed. Energy costs are up 30 percent in the past year. Electricity is up 11 percent and natural gas has increased to a 14 year high due to high demand.

The President has ordered emergency measures to increase U.S. manufacturing of solar panels and declared a two-year tariff exemption on panels from Southeast Asia to jumpstart his climate change goals. By in-

voicing the Defensive Production Act complaints say that the solar sector is being slowed by supply chain problems due to possible trade violations involving Chinese products. The Commerce Department is checking imports of solar panels from Thailand, Vietnam, Malaysia, and Cambodia. The investigation could result in retroactive tariffs of up to 240% and could lead to thousands of layoffs and holding up 80% of planned solar projects around the country.

New uses are being found for North Dakota coal. The state is researching into whether the coal contains rare earth elements that are used to produce touch screens for cell-phones, guidance systems for missiles, and motors and batteries for hybrid vehicles. It is known that rare earth elements neodymium and lanthanum exist in the state's coal. They don't know if there is enough to make it worthwhile to go after it.

U.S. Climate Chairman John Kerry says we can still show climate progress and persuade other countries to do the same even though he had not talked to them. The Supreme Court ruled that EPA has limited options for regulating climate pollution from power plants. They plan to release alternative regulations early next year.

Women Involved in Farm Economics

Sugar Commodity Report by Chair Klodette Stroh

Wyoming and Montana farmers have planted their Sugar beets, barley, oats, corn, dry edible beans successfully and crops are looking promising.

July 4, 1776, is celebrated because it is the day when the Continental Congress adopted the final draft of the Declaration of the Independence. We celebrate the forth of July to remember our freedom, and those who have fallen in the pursuit of it. We are a country made up of patriotic people. Many of our ancestors and their families fled their homeland long ago, to come to this promise land. America would be the land to fulfill their dream, better their lives, and assure their freedom.

American farmers helps our country to stay independent by proving food and fiber .It is so amazing to know that America's sugar industry alone support more than 151,000 jobs across more than two dozen states and contribute more than \$23 billion to the economy each year.

As you all know sugar is a fundamental building block of the food we eat, and sugar production provides good paying jobs and local support that make it the backbone of many communities throughout the United States

According to reports given by American Sugar Alliances America's sugar producers remain some of the most efficient in the

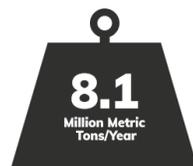
world.

Just like most Americans, farmers are feeling the pain at the gas pump. A diesel-powered tractor might require five gallons of fuel just to prepare and plant seed on one acre. With diesel above \$5 a gallon, a farmer planting 1,000 acres is looking at a \$26,000 bill for fuel costs alone, up \$10,000 from just last March. It will cost a lot more to care for and harvest the crops this fall.

Fertilizer prices are also soaring, with some fertilizer components increasing in cost by triple digits. Our farmers are being crushed by these unsustainable costs. Increased costs of production are one reason why the U.S. Department of Agriculture forecasts a 7.9 percent drop in farm income for 2022.

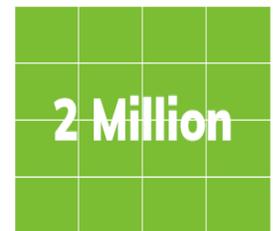
Our farmers are proud to help feed America. But this year, many of them might be wondering how they will be able to pay the high cost of production. There is no possible way that we as citizens of this country can let America's agriculture diminish. If we truly love our country and want to keep our independency we have to sup-

port our agriculture .
Total Produced



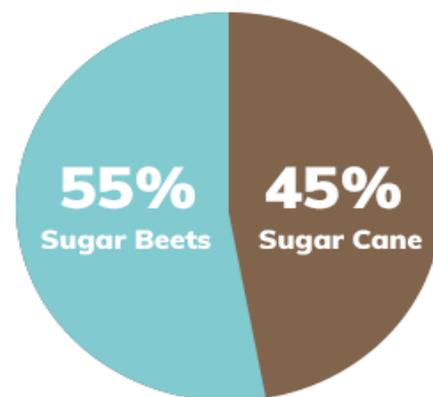
American Jobs

America's sugar producers support 142,000 U.S. jobs in 22 states.³



Acres Planted

11,000 family farmers grow sugar on 2 million acres in 2017/2018.⁴



Sugar beets account for 55% of the total sugar produced in the U.S., and sugar cane accounts for the remaining 45%.⁶



Legislative Commodity Report by Chair Marlene Kouba

On January 27, 2021, President Biden signed Executive Order #14008 entitled, "Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad", also known as the 30x30 plan.

In Section 16, he directed the Secretary of the Interior along with the Secretary of Agriculture and other officials to develop a plan to conserve at least 30% of the lands (not limited to farmland) and waterways in the U.S. by the year 2030. To do that, Congress must authorize a program or additional land acquisition and fund those programs plus write new rules and regulations on any new laws. The acquisition of lands and the elimination of more uses from the federal lands will harm the local tax base and employment opportunities that support schools, roads, and other necessary services. Full implementation of the goal would require a full funding by the president's budget. There is no constitutional or statutory authority for anyone to set aside and preserve 30 percent of our land

and water for conservation purposes.

Options to reach the 30x30 goal are perpetual easements or purchasing from private land owners. On March 15, 2022 the U.S. House passed bills to create millions of acres as wilderness areas in Arizona, California, Colorado, Washington, Nevada and Utah. Who will they get these acres from?

There are about 2 trillion acres in the U.S. About 30 percent of this equals 729 million acres so an additional 18 percent or 437 million acres would need to be protected to reach the 30x30 goal. However just under 18 percent of total U.S. land is already held by state and local government, private entities and tribes. How much of this would be included under this land grab?



On February 24, 2022, EPA and Army Corps of Engineers announced the selection of ten roundtables that highlight geographic differences and

a range of perspectives—including agriculture, conservation groups, developers, drinking water and wastewater managers, environmental groups, communities with environmental justice concerns, industry, Tribal nations, and state and local governments. The agencies will work with each roundtable to facilitate discussion on implementation of "waters of the United States" (WOTUS) while highlighting regional differences. Public comment periods ended on February 7, 2022. Their goal is to better protect our vital water resources that support health, environment, agricultural activity and economic growth. They propose to put back in place the pre-2015 definition of "waters of the U.S." or regain control the nation's waters which President Trump had rolled back. This was all directed by Executive Order #13990 on January 20, 2021 "Protecting Public Health and the Environment and Restoring Science to Tackle the Climate Crisis".



"The American Beef Labeling Act of 2021" or Senate bill 2716 was introduced on September 13, 2021 in the U.S. Senate.

It reinstates beef as among the numerous food commodities currently subject to the U.S. mandatory country-of-origin labeling (M-COOL) law that was originally passed by Congress in the 2002 Farm Bill. That bill included beef, lamb, pork, goat meat, chicken, fruits and vegetables, fish and shellfish, peanuts, ginseng, pecans and macadamia nuts. In 2009 WTO complained for Canada and Mexico that M-COOL didn't treat their imported livestock fairly. In 2013 there was some change in labeling but WTO still wasn't satisfied. The reinstatement of beef will occur no later than one year after S.2716 is enacted. Both beef and pork were included in the original law in 2002 but Congress later removed them from the law in 2015. This bill would reverse that action as it relates to beef. Today meatpackers that purchase cattle for beef are outsourcing cattle and beef from foreign coun-

tries and they don't let the consumer know where it is coming from. The Montana Stockgrowers Association and other groups support the idea of labeling beef born, raised and processed in the U.S. and want that language in legislation. Contact your delegation in Congress.



SEC Proposed Rule

On June 10, ND Senators Kevin Kramer and John Hoeven were pushing against a proposed rule from the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC) placing unworkable regulations on farmers, ranchers and ag producers. It is called "Enhanced and Standardization of Climate Related Disclosures for Investors." The proposal would require publicly traded companies to include certain climate-related disclosures in their registration statements and periodic reports. The rule would impose extensive new, complex and burdensome greenhouse gas reporting requirements on all entities within a company's value chain, including farmers and

ranchers who fall outside of the SEC's Congressionally-provided authority. They have serious concerns regarding the overreach of SEC and the impact it would have on the ag industry. It would mean more reports with new compliance expenses, reduced access to new business opportunities and potential consolidation in the ag industry. It is beyond their authority to mandate climate change reports. There are 39 other senators who signed a letter to SEC.



Proposition 12 Pork

Almost all of the pork consumed in California is produced outside of its borders. The National Pork Producers and the American Farm Bureau Federation have filed a brief with the Supreme Court challenging the constitutionality of California's Proposition 12. That state law seeks to ban the sale of pork from hogs that don't meet the state's arbitrary production standards, even if the pork was raised on farms outside of California. They argue Proposition 12 violates the constitution's

Commerce Clause which restricts states from regulating commerce outside their borders. The brief states that it will require massive and costly changes across the entire \$26 billion a year industry. It projects their policy into all other states, which expressly permit their farmers to house sows in ways inconsistent with Proposition 12. They claim California is trying to set the rules for the entire country. Farmers are dedicated to caring for their animals but this law inhibits efforts to provide them a safe environment. This law has the potential to devastate small family farms across the nation through unnecessary and expensive renovations and every family will pay for the law through higher food prices.



Federal Meal Funding at risk

Under USDA's May guidance, school districts will have to comply with Washington's standards on "gender identity and sexual orientation" or lose federal meal funding.

Under their new policy, every Food and Nutrition Service Program for low-income families will have to comply or not get government help. The school lunch program alone serves 29 million students a day, providing breakfast or lunch or both. The policy affects public schools, private schools, and some residential child care facilities. Thus far attorneys general from 26 states are fighting the new rule. The administration says it is a clarification of Title IX and the Food and Nutrition Act but the attorneys general say it is more like legislation that expands the concept of discrimination on the basis of sex to include gender identity and sexual orientation. USDA says there will be a grace period for accepting and processing complaints.





Trade Commodity Report by Chair Judy Trent

Global food supply, the problems in the Ukraine and Mother Nature have created some hard times.

Currently the World Trade Organization is actively participating in efforts to preserve global food security. The WTO is responding to the crisis by the taking the 3 following lines of action.

Keep Markets Transparent. Since the food is available for the short term, it is more about the physical and economic access instead of availability.

Keeping Market open. Some initiatives are underway such as the FARM initiative and the Ministries initiative.

Reducing market distortions. WTO stated this would build on long-standing work on agricultural trade reform.

Exports and availability of grain from the Ukraine are still uncertain but talk looks positive according to media. With the exports from Ukraine, it would curb a widening global hunger crisis and the deal would allow ships loaded with Ukrainian agricultural products through blockades. Joseph Borrell, the chief diplomat of the European Unions, said he is hoping for a deal that would allow Ukrainian wheat, corn and other agricultural products to ship from the beleaguered country, which has been under attack

by Russia forces since February, according to several media reports. Trading in soybean and grain futures are changing daily due to mother nature. With the heat index within the triple digits and little or no rain from North Dakota all the way to southern Texas. This has caused a jump in export sales of wheat in just seven days to 1.02 million metric tons being up from 286,385 tons a week earlier.

Grain supplies are tight and will be until spring of 2023. If Brazil and Argentina do not have a perfect growing season next year, grain prices will likely then stay firm (with the US having a bumper crop next summer).

Beef exports are ex-

pected to decline 1.8% from 2021. The good news is that the 2022 beef and veal exports are still well above the five-year average. With China implementing its COVID-zero policy which included a nationwide lockdown the effects are not yet known as they slowly ease restrictions. Beef markets are watching closely and waiting to see what will happen as the demand or increase of meat product in China.

With the strengthening of the U.S dollar's impact on imports-making U.S. purchases of foreign products cheaper-has the opposite effect on exports; it makes it more expensive for other countries to buy products from the U.S.



Women Involved in Farm Economics

Publicity by Pam Potthoff

NE WIFE radio this week:

Two weeks ago I shared with you an amusing quote from Fun Farm Facts: "Usually, brown hens lay brown eggs, and white hens lay white eggs; however, some breeds of chickens lay eggs with blue shells." Most farm folks know that isn't true. Chicken eggs can be white, cream, deep espresso, blue, freckled, or even green! Cross bred chickens can also lay very interesting colors, like dark olive eggs, pink eggs, even green eggs with brown spots! The variations are endless.

The breed of the chicken, not the feather color, determines what color the eggs will be. There may be some

slight variation, but the eggs will generally all be of the same color family if they come from a particular breed.

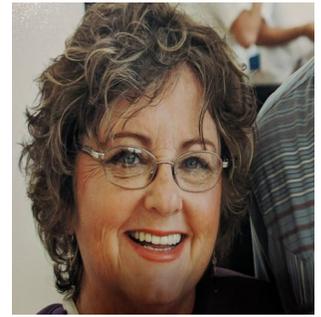
However, the egg color from one chicken can vary in intensity depending upon the time of year. For example, a brown egg laying chicken will often lay white eggs when they are getting over or going through a molt.

Easter Eggers is a breed that really dispel the idea that feather color determines egg color. Easter Eggers are technically a mixed breed, having some Araucana (air a con a) genes somewhere in their parentage. They are only bred for egg color, not appearance, so

Easter Egger chicks can be all different colors. White, gray, brown, black, speckled or not, every feather color exists among the breed and all the chicks look different, too.

Olive eggers are produced by breeding a blue egg layer with a dark brown egg layer. Each hen will lay a different shade of green or olive. In addition, some chickens will lay varying shades of the same color.

The blue egg gene (which gives us blue & green eggs) is linked to the same gene that gives chickens a pea comb. Most commonly, pea combs have 3 rows of "peas" or bumps that run lengthwise up from the beak. The center row is usually slightly taller than the outside rows. The pea comb is general-



ly small, positioned tightly against the chicken's forehead and forms a point at the end or tip of the comb.

But remember, egg color makes no difference in the taste of the eggs. The number one factor for egg flavor, is how the chicken lives.



Women Involved in Farm Economics

Homeland Security Report by Marlene Kouba



On June 10, Senator Kevin Cramer (R-ND) and Senator Jim Inhofe (R-OK) introduced the “Keep Our Communities Safe Act” which is legislation closing the legal loophole requiring immigration authorities to release illegal aliens back into the United States who have not been accepted for deportation to other countries after being detained for six months in the U.S. — a practice also called “catch and release”. This bill would ensure that illegal aliens who have been found guilty of violent crimes and aggravated felonies are not able to remain in our communities. As current law stands, an illegal alien with a criminal record is released back into the United States after six months if no other country accepts them for deportation. There were 18 other senators who joined them. There were 239,000 illegals who crossed the border in May, not counting the “getaways”.

The Biden administration has announced “The Los Angeles Declaration” to Summit of the Americas in June. It would set legal pathways to enter countries, aid to communities most affected by migration, humane border management and coordinated emergency responses. The accord was signed by 20 countries extending from Chile to Canada. New

measures were announced that would extend programs from Costa Rica to Cubans, Nicaraguans, and Venezuelans who arrived before March 2020. Mexico will add temporary worker visas for up to 20,000 Guatemalans a year. The U.S. is committing \$314 million to assist countries hosting refugees and migrants and is resuming or expanding efforts to reunite Haiti and Cuban families. Belize will “regularize” Central American and Caribbean migrants in the country.

On June 15, the president and DHS Secretary Mayorkas threw a 10-year anniversary party for Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA) while 14,000 unaccompanied children were at the border. Most of these children had been smuggled or trafficked and are older teen men and not a cause for any celebration for the horrific conditions they have suffered.

On June 24, a caravan of about 2,000 migrants were headed north in southern Mexico and were demanding Mexican officials provide a corridor and buses to the U.S. border. Attorneys for ICE have begun to throw out thousands of the 2 million backlogged cases following an order to not go after illegal crossings before the November 2020 election. The number could be 1 million by early summer 2024. There were 1,049,532 people released into the U.S. last year. They are told to show up

in court but few do. Those who are cleared may now apply to become permanent citizens in five years, the prerequisite to becoming a full citizen. They cannot do so, if a case is pending. In the meantime they live and work in the U.S. and very few leave so they are getting amnesty. Legal permanent residents no longer have to extend their work permits. Once they are citizens they get to apply for many benefits.

Senator Kevin Cramer (R-ND), Senator Rick Scott (R-FL) and Rep. Elsie Stefanik (R-NY) sent a letter to the Department of Homeland Security in January requesting a comprehensive review of the decisions by the Administration which has caused the worst border crisis in our history. They sent a follow up letter in June. In April DHS reported 234,800 apprehensions on the southern border, the highest in over 20 years. There were over 239,000 arrests in May including more than 10,000 from Haiti. A quarter of migrants had crossed before.

In July, California became the first state to guarantee free health care for all low-income immigrants living in the country illegally, a move that will provide coverage for an additional 764,000 people for about \$2.7 billion a year.

The Supreme Court ruled that Biden can scrap the Trump-era policy for immigrants to wait in Mexico for hearings in U.S. courts. Biden had already suspended it so it will not

make much difference on the border.

Arizona’s more than 370 miles along the southern border makes it a hotbed for human trafficking, charging clients thousands of dollars to enter the U.S. People trying to cross the border don’t pick where they cross as they are at the mercy of smuggling operations. With the Remain in Mexico policy now officially weakened by Biden and the Supreme Court, Mexico does not accept the return on non-Mexicans. Currently migrants are coming from over 100 countries, including India, Iran and Russia along with Central America and South America. There were 1.73 million border arrests in 2022 not counting those who cross on their own. Mexico says it will provide \$1.5 billion to help U.S. manage surge of migrants on the southern border. Mexico asked the U.S. to increase the number of work visas for Mexicans and Central Americans but Biden did not confirm it but did say the number would be ramped up and might expand access. U.S. companies planned investing \$40 billion in Mexico but they said it most likely would go to the energy sector.

The UN says smugglers made about \$7 billion worldwide in past years. Migrants pay from \$4000 to \$20,000 to get through our southern border even though they might face extortion, kidnapping, sex trafficking, rape, violence and even death.

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Special Thanks

Special Thanks go to all the Colorado WIFE Members who helped get our prospective member packages prepared and out to the States. Much work and time was spent to get this done for our members. Kerry and Jacob worked tirelessly to make sure we could get them mailed as conservatively as possible.

Thank you SO MUCH!

Belinda Sturges

National WIFE President

