

A LOUISIANA FARM & RANCH

"Louisiana Grown and Operated"

Vol. 16, No. 4

APRIL 2020



60 years!
EXTERMINATING
Family Owned. Customer Focused. Results Driven.
JJEXT.COM
 Lafayette • Crowley • Baton Rouge
 Hammond • Mandeville • New Orleans
 Houma • Lake Charles • DeRidder • Monroe
 Shreveport • Alexandria • Natchitoches



Dr. Mike Strain talks with Anne Idsall of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency at the H. Rouse Caffey Rice Research Station two years ago.

**Rice Crop Starting Well,
 Planting Continues**
 • Page 6

**LSU AgCenter,
 Louisiana
 Sea Grant Aim To Help
 Seafood Industry**
 • Page 8

**Cows-Socially
 Distancing
 Before Social
 Distancing Was Cool**
 • Page 34

**ON THE COVER
 Strain Urges Everyone
 To Continue To Follow
 CDC Guidelines**
 • Page 24



• Concrete • Limestone • Sand • Gravel
 491 Beroid Street • Jennings, LA 70546

(337) 824-2047

James, Stuart and Will Guinn appreciate your past and future business. Please call us for all your concrete and aggregate needs.





Revolutionizing Rice Production

“WE RELY ON RICETEC’S TECHNOLOGY TODAY AND FOR OUR NEXT GENERATION”

Neal and Meredith Stoesser
Southeast Texas Rice Farmers



RiceTec is committed to higher rice yields and grain quality through innovation.

We’re also committed to the farming families we’ve partnered with for generations. Get on the profitable and sustainable side of rice production through superior genetics, new herbicide tolerance technologies, and outstanding service and support.

Call your local RiceTec representative, at 877.580.7423. Learn more at RiceTec.

**These statements are not a guarantee of performance, nor do they constitute a warranty of fitness for a particular use.*



GEMINI 214 CL
YIELD
ADVANTAGE*
VS. CL151
(3 YEARS)



RT7521FP
YIELD
ADVANTAGE*
VS. CL153
(2 YEARS)

What's normal?



Kyle McCann,
Assistant to the
President, Louisiana
Farm Bureau
Federation

Editor's Note: This column is normally written by Louisiana Farm Bureau President Ronnie Anderson. Unfortunately, in mid-March, he contracted the COVID-19 virus and remains in the hospital receiving care. While Mr. Anderson has been put on a ventilator, he has made steady progress with both the virus and resulting complications.

We hope and pray he recovers fully. We ask that you pray for Mr. Anderson's recovery. Well wishes to him can be sent to the Louisiana Farm Bureau state headquarters at 9516 Airline Highway, Baton Rouge, La. 70815.

It seems everyone is always chasing that "normal year."

It can be heard at farm meetings, amongst coffee shop talk, or during consultations with your banker. Just a quarter of our way into 2020, hopes

that this will be that normal year may already be too far gone.

The COVID-19 pandemic is doing its best to skew normality so far from center, that we may have to define 'normal' in new terms moving forward.

First, we greatly appreciate all the concern, support and prayers for those at Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation who have been affected by COVID-19. We refer to our membership as 'family' for good reason and it shows that title to be evermore true with each calamity that faces Louisiana's farming and ranching community.

There are, however, stress-relieving signs of normalcy in our essential industry occurring daily. Seeds continue to be planted, produce picked, crawfish caught and cattle sold. The toughness, will, grit, and determination agriculture is known for always shines brightest in our nation's darkest hours.

A safe and secure supply chain starts on the farm and ends in the grocery baskets of the American consumer. This is truly essential work in providing enough normalcy to keep our nation held together to fight towards brighter days.

We also need to recognize stocked shelves

require a supporting cast to help get our goods to the end-user so desperate for a stocked pantry. Input suppliers, truckers, retailers and all those in between are providing the American people and our economy with the hope for normalcy to return once again by showing up to work every day.

Farm Bureau understands that being an essential business comes with a set of immediate challenges and is working alongside you and our congressional delegation and agency officials to provide you some financial relief.

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act recently passed Congress as the third of an undetermined amount of federal stimulus packages. The CARES Act carrying a \$2 trillion fiscal note, has set a new 'normal' in federal policy price tags.

Through the CARES Act we hope livestock, crawfish, specialty crop and every other farmer finds the necessary financial relief they need. How the monies will be distributed, and to whom, are still being decided. We will continue to monitor the consequences of this pandemic and do our best

SEE NORMAL, PAGE 5

Thank you for your continued support of
JTD Services, Inc. and
RoadRock Recycling, Inc. over the years.

JTD
SERVICES, INC.
337-873-6870
www.jtdservicesinc.com

RR
ROADROCK RECYCLING
INC.
337-873-6870
www.RoadRockRecycling.com

We are still 'Helping Acadiana Grow'
and providing '100% Recycled Rock'
to our community.

Please call our office (337) 873-6870
or (337) 873-9853 to check pricing
or to place your order.

LA's #1
Tobacco & Liquor Discount Outlet

✓it out!
TOBACCO
PLUS DISCOUNT OUTLET

SHOP
RITE

Milk
Bread
Fountain Drinks
Fuel

Great Products and Great Prices EVERYDAY!

Dare To Compare®

Founded MARCH 2005

General

P.O. Box 475, Crowley, LA 70527
 Phone: 337.788.5151
 Fax: 337.788.5150
 Website: www.lafarmranch.com
 Facebook: lafarmranch

Chief Financial Officer

Bryan Leonards, Jr.

Chief Operating Officer

Nicholas Leonards

General Manager

Anne T. Leonards
 E-mail: anne@lafarmranch.com

Production

Kathy Duncan, Manager
 Shantelle Breaux

Production Assistants

Claire L. Hoang Jane Leonards
 Charlotte Leonards Sarah Leonards
 Gracie L. Taylor Audrey Leonards
 Ellen Leonards

Web Design

Ellen Leonards

Advertising Sales

Shirley Berken • 337-370-6310
 shirley@kmbfarms.com
Kelly Landry • 337-380-7217
Gretchen Ohlenforst
 • 337-247-0200
 gretchen@lafarmranch.com

Contributing Writers-Photographers

Bruce Schultz
 Sam Irwin
 Amelia Levin Kent

Publisher & Editor

Bryan "Buck" Leonards, Sr.
 E-Mail: buck@lafarmranch.com

LOUISIANA FARM & RANCH
 is published monthly
 by L-9, Inc.,

602-B N. Parkerson Ave., Crowley, LA
 70526, phone 337-788-5151.

Bulk mailing permit #120 paid at Lafayette
 postmaster. For subscription,
 mail \$24 with name and address to
 P.O. Box 475

Crowley, LA 70527-0475.

Louisiana Farm & Ranch cannot be held
 responsible for the return of unsolicited
 manuscripts, photographs or illustrations,
 even if they are sent to us accompanied by
 a self-addressed envelope.

Copyright 2005, Louisiana Farm & Ranch,
 all rights reserved. Reproduction without
 permission of editorial or graphic content
 in any manner is prohibited.

DISTRIBUTION:

Louisiana Farm & Ranch is distributed
 throughout Louisiana at
 Ag related businesses.

DEADLINE for advertisement and editorial
 is the 25th of the preceding month.



*Jim Simon
 General Manager
 American
 Sugarcane League*

Sugarcane farmers and COVID-19

There's no doubt the novel coronavirus has posed a serious health threat to our country and state.

To limit the spread of the virus, Governor John Bel Edwards issued a state-wide order to the general public to "stay-at-home" on March 23. Prudently, the order excluded essential services.

Agriculture falls under that distinction.

Farming is the original essential industry and Louisiana's sugarcane producers noted the governor's order. They know there's a necessity keep supply lines open, so they do what they always do: they go out to the shed, climb aboard the tractor and crank it up. Farmers were already busy cultivating, fertilizing and doing other fallow groundwork to get ready for August planting.

The dry March and April weather thus far has been favorable as well. It means the farmers can get out to all their acreage and do what needs to be done. Dry weather allows them to work continuously and not have

to hopscotch fields to find dry ground.

On the national front, all the federal agencies sugarcane farmers deal with have adjusted their procedures to account for this extraordinary time. Homeland Security's Cyber and Infrastructure quickly issued an advisory that agriculture was an essential industry. The United States Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue announced a partnership between the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) to help facilitate the identification of foreign and domestic workers available for agricultural work.

Our national and state agricultural leaders know that American farmers and ranchers are at the frontlines of maintaining the nation's food supply and how critical it is to keep the agricultural workforce healthy and available. Louisiana's sugarcane industry relies on foreign workers, with many workers coming from Mexico, Guatemala and other countries. I'm confident the partnership between USDA and DOL will help Louisiana's sugar producers and other farmers get the federal resources they'll need to operate during the

SEE SUGARCANE, NEXT PAGE

A I P

Agri-Industrial Plastics



- ✓ Branched fittings are fiberglass reinforced for superior durability and life.
- ✓ Please stop by or call to discuss all your irrigation and drainage needs.
- Irrigation PVC pipe & fittings 6 to 24 inches
- Complete pipelines - risers, valves, spouts, etc.
- Pipe drops, special pipe drops, flood gates, doors, etc.
- Flapgates, poly tube, corrugated HDPE pipe
- Custom manufactured fittings for unique needs

131 Llama Road • Rayne, Louisiana
337-334-7730

Pat Miller, Owner/Operator

COVID-19 crisis.

The American Sugar Cane League is doing its part as well and has established a webpage to provide farmers with quick links to government resources and relevant information. The page is located at www.LaCane.org/news/coronavirus-sugarcane/. The League will update the page as necessary.

There is a Chinese saying, "May you always live in interesting times." On the surface it seems like a blessing. One thing is for sure: this is certainly an interesting time, but I'm sure we'll all breathe a sigh of relief when things get a bit duller. Until then, Louisiana's sugarcane farmers are still in the saddle. Say a prayer for them and while you're at it, say a prayer for all our farm workers and essential workers. They include everyone from doctors, nurses, pharmacists, dairymen, poultry farmers on down to the truck drivers, grocery store stockers and check-out clerks. They're on the front lines and supply lines. Let's wish them well. 🍀

NORMAL: Government assistance

FROM PAGE 3

to represent your needs at both the Louisiana and United States Capitols.

Regardless of your relation to the farm or your need for government assistance, we are all normal people working to get back to this sense of normal. Doesn't it feel better to fight this fight with others, even from a social distance? That's the benefit of having a Farm Bureau Family. When things get tough, we come together. When normal is nowhere to be found, our voice rings louder as an industry united.

We at Louisiana Farm Bureau want to thank you for what you are doing to bring our state and national economies back in order, but even more, we want to thank all those out there who are doing 'normal' things in their daily lives that keep everyone else safe, fed and healthy. Let's hope that next year, we will have the 'normal' year we've always wanted. 🍀

LSU AgCenter, Louisiana Farm Bureau surveying crawfish producers

CROWLEY — The LSU AgCenter and Louisiana Farm Bureau are conducting a survey to determine the economic damage to Louisiana crawfish producers caused by the coronavirus.

"It is extremely important that we get timely participation of this survey to strengthen the efforts in petitioning the U.S. Department of Agriculture for assistance for the industry," said Kurt Guidry, LSU AgCenter economist and director of the AgCenter Southwest Region.

Crawfish producers have been wracked by a glut of crawfish after restaurants were limited to carryout and delivery only.

Respondents without complete records should still participate in the survey, answering as many questions as possible. "Please don't let a lack of data be the reason that we can't help our crawfish farmers and crawfish industry," Guidry said.

The deadline for submitting survey responses is April 10.

AgCenter agents will be distributing the survey through email. Anyone without email service can obtain the form by calling their AgCenter agent or Guidry at 225-281-5948.

A completed survey can be sent by email to kmguidry@agcenter.lsu.edu. Also, the responses can be made verbally over the phone by calling Guidry at 225-281-5948, or by photographing the completed form and texting it to that phone number.

"With your participation, you will be joining the efforts of many producer leaders of the crawfish industry, Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry Commissioner Mike Strain, the Louisiana Farm Bureau Federation executive committee, and the Louisiana congressional delegation," Guidry said.

More information is available by calling Guidry or AgCenter economist Michael Deliberto at 985-320-8214. 🍀

We carry crawfish bait at all of our locations!

YOUR PURINA DEALER

www.ghoutdoor.com Locally Owned and Operated.

GUEYDAN - 337.536.6751
CHURCH POINT - 337.684.3391 • EUNICE - 337.457.7353
KAPLAN - 337.643.2108 • IOWA - 337.582.3524

Rice crop starting well, planting continues

CROWLEY – Rice planting is nearing completion in southwest Louisiana, where most of the state’s rice is grown, and it has begun in northeast Louisiana.

LSU AgCenter state rice specialist Dustin Harrell said farmers took advantage of favorable planting conditions beginning around March 10 and planted much of the crop during the past two weeks in southwest Louisiana. Warm weather has helped the crop emerge quickly.

“Last week we already had some rice at 3 inches and two leaves,” Harrell said. “It’s moving along much differently than last year. It’s growing much faster.”

Harrell expects to see a nearly 5% increase in rice acreage across Louisiana this year.

“It just penciled out better than some of the other crops out there,” he said. “The acres in southwest Louisiana will probably remain somewhat similar. The increase we are going to see is in our northeast Louisiana planting area.”

The increasing popularity of growing furrow-irrigated rice, also called row rice, is fueling the increase in northeast Louisiana. The practice is now being recognized by the U.S. Department of Agriculture.

“The USDA risk management agency has




Alan Lawson drills his rice seed into the ground on his farm in Acadia Parish on April 3, 2019. Rice planting for 2020 is nearing completion in southwest Louisiana and is starting in northeast Louisiana. Rice acreage is expected to increase nearly 5% in Louisiana with total acreage expected to be around 435,000 acres. Photo by Bruce Schultz/LSU AgCenter


come up with an insurance plan. It will be an insurable practice for 2020, as well as alternate wetting and drying, another water management practice. So, both of these practices can be

insured,” Harrell said.


Harrell conducts on-farm research plots at several locations across the state. The outbreak of COVID-19 may curtail some of that research,



New Dining Room!



- Call-in Orders Welcomed
- Drive Thru Available



...the one and only!
Frosto

“Home of the Best Burger in town”
228 N. Ave. G • Crowley, LA • 783-0917



GIVING FARMING FAMILIES THE HELP THEY NEED

At The Bank, we’ve been there! Our lenders are from farming families too. So whether it’s for farm equipment, land acquisitions or just helping the business flow, give us a call....we want to help!

thebank.bank



SUBJECT TO CREDIT APPROVAL

JENNINGS: 337-824-0033 LAKE ARTHUR: 337-774-1339
IOWA: 337-944-4386 IOTA: 337-602-8143 WELSH: 337-734-3050

but he will continue his programs at the LSU AgCenter H. Rouse Caffey Rice Research Station at Crowley.

“Some of that off-station research may be put on hold and may not be completed this year,” Harrell said. “But all the research in the station should be 100% go.”

Harrell said if things return to normal soon, it may give him an opportunity to do some research on late-planted rice.

The coronavirus outbreak has shuttered schools, and Harrell believes this has presented an opportunity for young people to be involved in planting rice. He has seen older school-aged children driving tractors and engaged in helping with the planting.

The AgCenter mission of keeping farmers informed is still moving forward despite the virus’ effect on ordinary day-to-day operations, Harrell said.

“We have means of communication that we can use,” he said. “We can use text messages; pictures sent through text messages. I can answer questions electronically. We can do a lot of diagnostic work virtually now.”



Nutrien™

Feeding the Future™

**Maximize your Crop Production
with the Right People
and the Right Products.**

BLACKMAX™ 22

Dyna-Gro
SEED

Radiate
PLANT GROWTH REGULATOR

Quick Ultra
with **AWAKEN**
7-28-4

LoKomotive
X-TRA

TITAN
XC/S

Profit From Our Experience

Boyce, La
318-793-2023

Jonesville, La
318-339-6154

Opelousas, La
337-594-1003

Armistead, La
318-932-5510

Bunkie, La
318-346-1056

New Roads, La
225-638-6343

Thibodaux, La
985-447-4081

Gilliam, La
318-296-4212

Elton, La
337-584-3556

Ville Platte, La
337-363-1046

Whiteville, La
318-838-2598

Nutrien
Ag Solutions

Peacocks For Sale



Indian Peacock - Father of the Peacocks that are for sale.

1 Year Old Peacocks for sale.

All wormed.

Call **337-717-6998**

(Crowley)

LSU AgCenter, Louisiana Sea Grant aim to help seafood industry cope with coronavirus struggles

DELCAMBRE — The LSU AgCenter and Louisiana Sea Grant are working to help the seafood industry, which is struggling with a massive financial challenge created by the coronavirus pandemic.

Restaurants that use large amounts of seafood are only offering carryout service, and they have drastically scaled back their seafood purchases.

“I’m sure it’s less than 10% of its previous quantity,” said Rusty Gaude, LSU AgCenter and Louisiana Sea Grant fisheries agent in the New Orleans area.

A seafood marketing program, Louisiana Direct Seafood, is one way of helping fishermen and dealers by connecting them directly with consumers.

The Louisiana Direct Seafood program helps consumers buy seafood from fishermen and vendors.

Fishermen in Cameron, Delcambre, Lafourche-

Terbonne and Southshore New Orleans areas post their fresh catch messages on a website. Customers are able to visit the site and see in real time who has fresh product ready for sale, where they are located and their contact information. Consumers can then contact the sellers directly to establish a price, place orders and arrange pickup at the docks or other locations.

The Louisiana Direct Seafood is on the internet at <https://louisianadirectseafood.com>. People also can sign up for newsletters and follow fishermen on regional Facebook pages.

The program also has an e-commerce site at <https://louisianadirectseafoodshop.com> where customers can buy fresh frozen seafood products caught and packed in Louisiana.

Fishermen are using the Louisiana Direct Seafood program and also are relying on their own lists of regular customers, Gaude said.

Jack Montoucet, secretary of the Louisiana De-



Cheryl Granger, of Maurice, Louisiana, watches as her husband, Albert Granger, empties a sack of shrimp into an ice chest. They use the internet and the Louisiana Direct Seafood program to help sell their product from their business near Maurice. Albert Granger also has a shrimp boat. File photo by Bruce Schultz/LSU AgCenter

Find your piece of land...

And the lender who can help.

We finance:

- Crop production
- Farm operating expenses
- Irrigation & land leveling
- Equipment
- Cattle and livestock
- Rural land
- Country homes
- Recreational property
- Agribusiness expenses



LouisianaLandBank.com 877-648-LAND



partment of Wildlife and Fisheries, said the fishing industry is going through a tough time, and buying local products could help it survive.

“Please find a way to include all Louisiana seafood products in your budgets,” Montoucet said. “Remember, the income received is key to maintaining the overall strength of our economy. And remember to ask if it was caught in Louisiana.”

Thomas Hymel, LSU AgCenter and Louisiana Sea Grant fisheries agent, said a fisher recently had 5,000 pounds of red snapper but couldn’t sell any of it to his restaurant customers or wholesale buyers.

Consumers were alerted to the available fish through social media, and restaurant owner Frank Randol, of Lafayette, allowed use of his seafood processing facility to sell the fish.

“We were able to help him move those fish in two days,” Hymel said.

It’s critical that seafood processors’ freezers currently filled with fish and other seafood are emptied in time for the spring shrimp season that usually opens in May.

“Everybody is sitting on freezers full of product that needs to move,” Hymel said.

The Louisiana Direct Seafood program has been in operation for eight years, and its usefulness to the fishing industry is becoming more evident as the usual supply chain is disrupted by the coronavirus, Hymel said.

“It’s a good deal for the fishermen, and it’s a good deal for the consumers. Everybody is looking at how to sell to the public,” he said.

Cheryl Granger, a seafood dealer near Maurice, bought some of the snapper for resale.

“Now she’s interested in getting some more,” Hymel said.

She bought 1,000 pounds of the snapper from Grand Isle, and she sold it all.

Granger said her business is down considerably, even though it is still Lent.

“Things are terribly slow,” she said.

The past weekend, she only had \$160 in sales compared to a usual sales volume of \$2,000.

“People are scared to get out, and some people might not have the money,” she said.

This all comes after a difficult shrimp season last year caused by high volumes of fresh water that hurt the inshore season.

Granger said she’s set up a drive-thru at the business with shrimp

peeled and whole, crab in various forms, catfish filets, frogs, alligator and soft-shell crabs.

Julie Falgout, LSU AgCenter and Louisiana Sea Grant fisheries agent in Terrebonne Parish, said not much seafood is being sold in her area either.

“Right now, it’s at a dead stop. Hopefully things will straighten out before the inshore shrimp season starts,” she said.

The larger offshore shrimp boats are docked because they don’t want to get caught with a large

load of shrimp they can’t sell.

“They all came in, and they’re tied up,” Falgout said.

Boats that have freezers full of shrimp can wait until the market improves before selling their product.

Falgout is encouraged that 300 individuals have recently joined the Lafourche-Terrebonne area of

SEE SEA GRANT, PAGE 10

J&M

UNMATCHED DESIGN AND PERFORMANCE

Models: 525 | 620 | 750 | 875 | 1000 | 1051 | 1151 | 1326 | 1401

While all grain carts share basic components (like gearboxes and power take-off shafts) and basic features (like folding augers and discharge spouts), not all grain carts utilize these basic components and features in a design that maximizes its performance and usability. J&M grain carts offer many design features that create a level of performance that is unmatched throughout the industry.

STRENGTH AND VERSATILITY

Low-Profile | 4-Wheel Steer Series | Trail-Blazer Series

J&M header transports are offered in 3 different series to accommodate your combine head needs. Choose from the 4-Wheel Steer Series for greater maneuverability, the Trail-Blazer Series for highway transportation and the Low-Profile Series for lower clearance height. Each J&M header transport has the strength and durability to protect your combine head investment while the head is being transported. All transports are offered in red, green or black exterior finish.

Contact
P&P Marketing
Pat Patterson
(901) 647-7446

J&M Manufacturing Co., Inc. • 284 Railroad Street • Fort Recovery, Ohio 45846 • (419) 375-2376 • fax: (419) 375-2708 • sales@j-m-inc.com

SEA GRANT:

FROM PAGE 9

the Louisiana Direct Seafood program.

The sales of red snapper to Granger and individual consumers demonstrated the demand is there for fresh seafood that can be sold direct to consumers.

“Through Facebook, we helped sell 5,000 pounds of snapper,” she said.

A large load of soft-shelled crabs will be arriving at the port this week.

“We’re looking to get those frozen and packaged,” said Wendell Verrett, director of the Port of Delcambre.

The Louisiana Direct Seafood program provides some relief for the fishing industry, Verrett said, adding that a shrimper recently sold 900 pounds to consumers.

Shrimpers usually are able to sell much of their product at the Delcambre Farmers Market that starts in April, but it is closed this year.

Fisherman and seafood dealer Doug Olander, of Franklin, said his business is facing a drastic loss.

He said he didn’t sell enough product the past



A shrimp boat leaves Intracoastal City, Louisiana. Inshore season usually opens in mid-May, and shrimpers are worried they will have difficulty selling their catch because of the slowdown in seafood purchases by restaurants and seafood dealers because of COVID-19. File photo by Bruce Schultz/LSU AgCenter

week to pay his utility bills.

“I paid all my workers out of savings,” he said.

Normally, Olander would be fishing for black drum, but he’s already storing a large amount that he’s not able to sell. He also has a freezer full of garfish.

“We’re sitting at home right now because nothing is moving,” he said.

Olander is hoping to get on the water to catch shrimp soon.

Kevin Savoie, LSU AgCenter and Louisiana Sea Grant fisheries agent in Cameron Parish, said a dealer in Cameron managed to sell a small amount of seafood.

“She had 300 pounds and moved it all in one day,” he said.

He said shrimpers are reporting good catches offshore.

Delcambre faces the problem of having no large cold storage facility, which will cause more problems for the upcoming shrimp season.

“I don’t know what’s going to happen,” Savoie said. “There are so many unknowns.”

Gaude said freezers are already full in the New Orleans

area, and a glut of shrimp is inevitable once the inshore season opens.

“There’s a tsunami coming at us, and we’re not sure what to do,” he said.

A group of Texas shrimpers was unable to find



ALL VARIETIES OF SUPREME RICE ARE GROWN BY LOCAL LOUISIANA FARMERS AND DELIVERED FRESH TO YOUR TABLE.

SupremeRice.com



any buyers for their catch recently.


Gaude said the LSU AgCenter and Louisiana Sea Grant are exploring different solutions to the problem, including federal help that might subsidize the cold storage expenses.

Another way to help the industry would be to require Louisiana agencies to buy seafood from Louisiana only, he said.

Montoucet said buying Louisiana seafood is the best way consumers can help the industry.

“Remember that each dollar you spend helps fishermen, their families and their communities, the backbone of the seafood industry,” he said. “They are counting on this income for their survival, especially after the hardships many of them suffered last year.”

Gaude said the fishing industry would prefer not to rely on government help, but it may be their only way to endure the current situation.

“They want to go back to work and make an honest buck. A handout is demoralizing because they pride themselves on being free and hardworking,” he said. 



Fresh-caught shrimp is weighed at the dock in Delcambre, Louisiana. Fishermen and seafood dealers are having a difficult time selling their products because of the curtailment of restaurant business resulting from the coronavirus. File photo by Bruce Schultz/LSU AgCenter



Fred, Phillip, Bill, Paul and Jacob Zaunbrecher of G, F & P Zaunbrecher Farms.



Dawn Morgan, Jimmy Prevost and Jena Bordes

April 14, 2020 Production Reporting
July 15, 2020 Acreage Reporting

C.J. Prevost
Insurance Agency Inc.

Contact Jimmy Prevost at—

337-334-5152 • 877-335-5152

108 W. Branche St • PO Box 146 • Rayne, LA 70578

jimmy@prevostinsurance.com

20+ years in Crop Insurance

We represent several crop insurance companies.



Crop policies sold or reinsured by the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation are available to all producers regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age or disability.



Louisiana 811



Before digging, call 811 at least two full work days in advance.

That's all it takes to notify LA One Call members, so they can mark nearby utility lines and pipelines to prevent injury and costly accidents.

IT'S THE LAW. IT'S FREE. Call or click www.LAOneCall.com

STAR☆PRO

PREMIUM PET FOOD

PERFORMANCE FORMULA

FORTIFIED NUTRITION FOR
THE CANINE ATHLETE



**NO CORN
& NO SOY**



Available At Your Local
Lone Star® Dealer:

ANTHONY'S FEED & FARM SUPPLY
102 BELLARD • CHURCH POINT, LA • 337-684-5403

ATLAS FEED MILL
816 GRANT AVENUE • BREAUX BRIDGE, LA • 337-332-1466

CARENCRO FEED & PET SUPPLY
5022 N. UNIVERSITY • CARENCRO, LA • 337-896-7520

FEED PRO
1524 I-49 N SERVICE ROAD • SUNSET, LA • 337-662-5497

HANKS WAREHOUSE
1110 E TEXAS AVENUE • RAYNE, LA • 337-334-3616

THIBODEAUX'S TOWN & COUNTRY
1124 N LAFITTE STREET • ABBEVILLE, LA • 337-898-1829

TFP Nutrition • Nacogdoches, TX • www.lonestarfeed.com



Bob's tree
PRESERVATION
conservation • treecare • organics

CHURCH POINT, LA • SCOTT, LA • 888-620-TREE (8733) • BOBSTREE.COM

**Real
Cajun
Food**



**Fried Chicken to
go available
Thursday and
Saturday**

Buffet Menu

Lunch 10:30 am - 2 pm
Dinner 5:30 - 9 pm

Monday
Chicken Stew

Saturday Lunch
Lagniappe

Tuesday
Fried Pork Chops

Saturday Night
Fried Chicken
Meatloaf

Wednesday
Varies Please Call
Steak Night

Sunday
Pork Roast in a
Gravy
Fried or Baked
Chicken

Thursday
Fried Chicken

Friday
Seafood



Like us on Facebook/
Rascals Cajun
Restaurant

**Hours: Sunday - Thursday,
7 am - 9 pm
Friday and Saturday,
7 am - 10 pm**

137 Frontage Road (north at Exit 92)
• Rayne
• 337-873-8331

*Buffet subject to change.
Menu also available.*



View Our Entire Inventory • www.PTIEQ.com

Email: dennish@ptieq.com • craigg@ptieq.com



2011 MAGNUM 315 2222 HOURS
110,000.00 LACASSINE



2017 CASEIH PUMA 185 3042 HRS
\$90,000.00 BUNKIE



2014 STEIGER 420 2767 HOURS
\$185,000.00 EUNICE



2013 PUMA 145 2254 HOURS
\$65,000.00 RAYVILLE



2013 CASEIH MAGNUM 180 3188 HOURS
70,000.00 JEANETTE



2016 MAGNUM 380 ROWTRAC 1919 HOURS
\$225,000.00 JONESVILLE



2013 MAGNUM 210 5886 HOURS
\$50,000.00 BUNKIE



MUT116 JD 5230 1026 HOURS
23,500.00 BUNKIE



2013 9230T COMBINE 1346 HOURS
\$210,000.00 MCGEHEE



2009 CASEIH 8120 2450 HOURS
110,000.00 JONESVILLE



2014 JD S680 931 HOURS
165,000.00 MCGEHEE



2012 CASEIH 8230 1935 HOURS
150,000.00



2008 MACDON FD70-35FT
35,000.00 TALLULAH



2015 3340 SPRAYER 1331 HOURS
165,000.00



2010 JOHN DEERE 1720 PLANTER
30,000.00 TALLULAH



2009 CASEIH RMX340-31
42,500.00



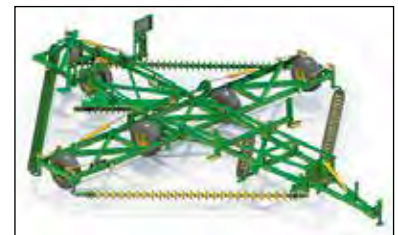
SHOULTE CUTTER



MEDALCRAFT 2814WT



McHALE BALER



KELLY DIAMOND HARROW

Bunkie, LA	(318) 824-7046	Jeanerette, LA	(337) 573-6069	Lake Providence, LA	(318) 824-7049	Opelousas, LA	(337) 573-6071
Cecilia, LA	(337) 573-6070	Jonesville, LA	(318) 824-7050	McGehee, AR	(870) 362-7008	Rayville, LA	(318) 824-7048
Eunice, LA	(337) 573-6072	Lacassine/Iowa, LA	(337) 573-6068	New Roads, LA	(225)306-7032	Tallulah, LA	(318) 824-7047
		Shreveport, LA	(318) 404-1447	Parks, LA	(337) 845-5080		

Farmers still planting soybeans despite COVID-19

BATON ROUGE — Soybeans are Louisiana's largest crop in terms of acreage, and farmers across the state are busy planting this year's crop despite the challenges of COVID-19.

"About 10% of the state has been planted," said LSU AgCenter state soybean specialist David Moseley. "We're a little behind where we were last year, but we are right on the five-year average."

Pointe Coupee farmer George Lacour intends to plant 2,400 acres of soybeans this year. "So far, we have 600 acres planted," Lacour said.

Lacour said moisture levels have been adequate in his area for planting, but it is trending drier. However, he said seepage from a high Mississippi River is an issue for fields bordering the levee.

Warm weather has helped dry some fields and allowed Lacour to repair rutted fields from last year.

"The warm weather has definitely helped," Lacour said. "I've got the best stand of corn right now that I have had in the last 10 years."

North Louisiana farmers are having more issues with wet ground, which has slowed planting there. In the southern part of the state, some farmers are waiting for rain before resuming planting.

According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Moseley said, planting intentions for soybeans in Louisiana is 980,000 acres, approximately a 10% increase from last year's acreage.

In speaking with some AgCenter agents in soybean-producing parishes, Moseley's figures are slightly lower than the USDA numbers.

"We're estimating around 850,000 acres," Moseley said, "which would be very similar to last year's crop."

These numbers could change. Weather could prevent some acres from being planted, or an increase in the price for soybeans could cause an increase in acreage.

Nationally, the USDA is estimating a 10% increase, which would be in line with the increase it is forecasting for Louisiana. Total soybean acreage nationally is expected to be 83.5 million.

A few years ago, Louisiana grew nearly 1.4 million acres. A disastrous harvest season in 2018 and a trade spat with China, the major importer of U.S. grown soybeans, has reduced the appetite for growing soybeans, both in Louisiana and the U.S.

The optimum window for planting soybeans in Louisiana is April 10 to May 10. Late-planted soybeans usually produce lower yields, Moseley said.


"Day length plays a major role in soybean production," Moseley said. "Shorter days result in less vegetative growth, which in turn leads to reduced photosynthesis."

Less vegetative growth also does not close the canopy. Holes in the canopy allow sunlight to get in, which encourages weed growth and increases evaporation of soil moisture. Both of these can lead to lower yields.

This year is Moseley's first as the AgCenter state soybean specialist. He arrived in January and began attending producer meetings to introduce himself to members of the farming community.

"That really helped me identify who I will be working with," he said.

Moseley said the COVID-19 situation has not affected his research efforts. He plans to have 158 entries in the official variety trials and

26 core-block trials. Moseley also plans to have small-plot research looking at elite germplasm, planting dates, plant populations and fertility. 



A farmer plants soybeans in a field in Acadia Parish. Farmers are expected to plant approximately 900,000 acres of soybeans across Louisiana in 2020. Dry conditions in the southern part of the state are slowing down planting, while wet conditions in the north Louisiana are keeping farmers from getting into their fields. Photo by Bruce Schultz/LSU AgCenter



Soybean planting is underway in St. Landry Parish. Conditions in late March and early April 2020 have allowed farmers in the central part of the state to plant soybeans. The optimum planting window for soybeans in Louisiana is April 10 through May 10. Photo by Bruce Schultz/LSU AgCenter

AgCenter agents still distributing vital information

BATON ROUGE — Having to work from home comes with challenges. But farmers are still busy in their workplace: fields, pastures and ponds.

To help farmers produce a successful crop, LSU AgCenter agents are using many delivery methods to disseminate needed information.

Dennis Burns, agriculture and natural resource agent for Concordia, Tensas and Catahoula parishes, is taking advantage of a vast array of tools. He is working with AgCenter agents Kylie Miller and R.L. Frazier in producing a weekly podcast focusing on crop issues in northeast Louisiana.

“It’s called the Louisiana Delta Crop Report,” Burns said. “This is our second year to do it.”

Burns said they released an episode on March 30 that focused on replanting corn. It was a subject chosen because the agents had been receiving calls on it.

The podcast features AgCenter researchers who study areas such as weed science, entomology and crop diseases.

Burns said nearly 100 people subscribe to the podcast, and he has encountered growers who listen to the podcast when he meets with them.

“They’ll tell me, ‘I was just listening to you,’” Burns said.

Dustin Harrell, AgCenter state rice specialist, is a big proponent of using smartphone technology. First, he receives phone calls from growers and consultants on issues such as fertilization and variety recommendations.

He also incorporates text messaging into his outreach efforts. He has a Louisiana rice text message group consisting of nearly 350 individuals. Harrell can use this group to distribute information quickly if a hot issue arises.

Harrell said he used the text message group recently to alert producers of a problem with the invasive apple snail. For the first time in Louisiana, it was documented that the snails were responsible for severely damaging a young stand of rice.

“We also alerted growers that cutworms had clipped a rice stand in Avoyelles Parish,” Harrell said.

Harrell also puts together a newsletter called Louisiana Rice Notes. The newsletter does not have a regularly scheduled release date; rather, Harrell said, it is issue-driven.

“It’s a seasonal newsletter, but when a major issue arrives, I will release an issue focused on how growers can manage that issue,” Harrell said.

Jeremy Hebert, an agricultural and natural resource agent with rice responsibilities in southwest Louisiana, has taken to using Zoom, a software that allows users to interact through web conferencing.

“I did a Zoom conference with two growers and a crop consultant to discuss seeding rates,” Hebert said. “It got the information out that was needed by them.”


Hebert estimates he is fielding anywhere between 15 and 20 phone calls a day on crop and homeowner horticulture issues.

“It’s a busy time for crops and vegetables,” he said.

The AgCenter has other informational efforts aimed for the general public.

AgCenter personnel are also being featured in videos found on YouTube and Facebook. Chris Dunaway, horticulture agent in St. Charles Parish, showed how to properly prune a citrus tree. Anna Timmerman, horticulture agent in Jefferson Parish, is posting daily tips for homeowners on the GNO Gardening Facebook page.

The LSU AgCenter Facebook page is hosting “LIVE at FIVE” sessions. These Facebook Live broadcasts hosted by AgCenter social media strategist Anna Ribbeck allow viewers to ask questions of AgCenter specialists. Recent sessions have focused on horticulture and wildlife topics. Times and dates for the broadcasts are pinned at the top of the AgCenter Facebook page. The broadcasts start at 5 p.m.

For school-aged children, 4-H agents are posting a “virtual recess” activity every day that includes a lesson on topics such as math and science. This resource can be accessed at lsuagcenter.com. 

BECAUSE YOUR
OFFICE IS WHEREVER
YOU ARE.



BANK ON THE GO WITH OUR
BUSINESS MOBILE BANKING APP.

Deposit checks | Review transactions

Make transfers | Approve activity



Home  Bank
Good for business. Good for life.

337-237-1960 | Home24Bank.com

Terms, conditions and fees may apply. Some services require Home Bank Treasury Management enrollment. Ask your bank representative for details.



Crawfish farmers urged not to drain ponds yet despite drop in sales

ABBEVILLE — Crawfish producer Allen McLain's business has dropped dramatically because of the coronavirus' impact on the restaurant business.

"We're struggling. It's not looking good," said McLain, of Abbeville.

A big portion of his business is selling his product to area restaurants, but he said that has been sharply reduced.

Crawfish are plentiful and have grown to a large size, but there's a limited market. He said sales during the week are a fraction of his normal volume.

"The weekends are about average," he said.

Normally, McLain's workers would be bringing sacks of crawfish from his ponds.

"The ponds are just resting," he said. "We're not fishing a quarter what we need to be fishing."

Mark Shirley, LSU AgCenter crawfish specialist, said McLain is enduring the same challenge faced by many producers. Buyers are limiting how much they will purchase from producers, he said.



Crawfish producer Allen McLain, at right, inspects crawfish caught by Ethan Trahan, at left, in Vermilion Parish last year. File photo by Bruce Schultz/LSU AgCenter

Peeling plants can only process a limited amount because of restrictions on the number of workers who can occupy a facility and maintain social distancing, he said.

But Shirley said it may not be the time to drain ponds, even if producers have a serious loss of business. The current population will be needed to provide a supply next year, he said, and draining a field now would curtail that potential.

"You need to look ahead," Shirley said.

For a rice farmer, draining a crawfish pond makes sense if the field is intended for a rice crop this year. The window recommended by the LSU AgCenter for planting a rice crop to obtain optimum results closes April 15.

A field planted in rice to be used for crawfish next year can be stocked with crawfish when the rice gets 10 to 12 inches tall, Shirley said.

But if the pond will be used for crawfish next year, the best strategy now is to leave it flooded and harvest crawfish to meet demand, Shirley said.

"Wait until May to slowly draw it down and let the crawfish burrow," he said.

The burrowing crawfish will emerge after the

CorrugatedIND.com

BUILDING. RELATIONSHIPS.

One metal building at a time.

For nearly 75 years, Corrugated Industries has been the Gulf South's premier metal building supplier specializing in high-quality, customized commercial and residential metal building packages, roofing and building components. Corrugated Industries revolutionized the industry in 1961 when we developed the first patent for custom-cut roll-form machines. In 2019, we decided it was time to revolutionize our brand to better reflect the quality of our products



CORRUGATED
INDUSTRIES

T: 504.277.7541
F: 504.277.7330

205 E. Pleasure
Chalmette, LA 70043

and customer service. As a fourth-generation family-owned business, Corrugated Industries proudly continues to utilize the latest products, equipment and modern building techniques to increase efficiency and sustainability and ensures customer satisfaction by providing outstanding service throughout the entire building process. We greatly value the relationships we've built with our customers, so contact us today and let us know how we can best connect to protect.

summer and reestablish the population, he said. Stocking crawfish in a rice field should be done at the rate of two to three sacks per acre with crawfish from healthy ponds. No white river crawfish should be used, he advised.

The stocking population should have at least 50% females, which can be determined by hand. He said details for determining the females can be found in the LSU AgCenter Crawfish Production Manual at <https://www.lsuagcenter.com/topics/livestock/aquaculture/crawfish/crawfish-production-manual>.

If crawfish are stocked too early in a rice field, the crawfish will damage seedlings, he said.

Shirley is getting reports of fields that have been infected with white spot syndrome virus, which has been a problem for producers for several years. That's expected for this time of year, he said, with warmer weather.

"If a pond is infected with white spot syndrome virus, we do not have enough information to make a confident recommendation to farmers," he said. "Some ponds have had an outbreak again in the following season, and others have not."

He said draining an affected field now to plant a rice crop is an option, but those fields would have to be restocked with crawfish.

In permanent pond situations, Shirley said, farmers can keep the pond flooded and drain in May or June.

"There may be enough crawfish to live thru the infection and survive until the fall to repopulate the pond," he said. "There is no guarantee that the virus will not show up again next spring."

Shirley warned that water from an infected pond could transmit the virus if it is pumped into other ponds.

He said a team of LSU AgCenter researchers has recently been awarded funds to investigate the factors surrounding the impact of white spot syndrome virus, including transmission vectors, viral resistance in crawfish and changes of the virus.

"Those efforts are just beginning and will likely take several years to come up with management recommendations," he said.



Boiled crawfish are scooped by Allen McLain into a carryout dish in 2019. File photo by Bruce Schultz/LSU AgCenter



Farm Bureau® | SEE US TODAY!

0% FINANCING AVAILABLE* ON ALL NEW FARMALL® SERIES TRACTORS

PLUS

\$300 FARM BUREAU DISCOUNT**

on new Farmall compact A & C series tractors, Farmall utility A series tractors and Farmall 100A series tractors

\$500 FARM BUREAU DISCOUNT**

on new Farmall N & V series tractors, Farmall utility U series tractors and Farmall utility C series tractors



Print your certificate today!†

Visit <https://lafarmbureau.org/lfbbenefits>

† A current Farm Bureau membership verification certificate must be presented to the Case IH dealer in advance of product delivery to receive the incentive discount. Farm Bureau and the FB State Logo are registered service marks owned by the American Farm Bureau Federation, and are used by CNH America LLC under license from the American Farm Bureau Federation.

* For commercial use only. Customer participation subject to credit qualification and approval by CNH Industrial Capital America LLC or CNH Industrial Capital Canada Ltd. See your participating Case IH dealer for details and eligibility requirements. Down payment may be required. Offer valid through December 31, 2020. Not all customers or applicants may qualify for this rate or term. CNH Industrial Capital America LLC or CNH Industrial Capital Canada Ltd. standard terms and conditions will apply. Taxes, freight, set-up, delivery, additional options or attachments not included in price. Program subject to change or cancellation without notice.

** Offer available through 12/31/2020. Available on new Case IH Farmall tractors. This offer may be combined with other offers, but is not valid on prior purchases. A valid Farm Bureau® Membership Certificate is required, which may be obtained at fbverify.com/case. See your participating Case IH dealer for details and eligibility requirements. Not available in all states. Offer subject to change or cancellation without notice.

©2020 CNH Industrial America LLC. All rights reserved. Case IH and CNH Industrial Capital are trademarks registered in the United States and many other countries, owned by or licensed to CNH Industrial N.V., its subsidiaries or affiliates.





BAXTER BLACK

ON THE EDGE OF COMMON SENSE

His Father's Son

His Father's Son
Mary waited for Jesus outside the cave
The promised resurrection meant He was saved.
While others waited a savior to come
Mary awaited her son.

The baby she had called Jesus stood in a crowd
Others gathered around Him. She was so proud.
She always worried in spite of His good
That he'd be misunderstood.

Mary, it's nothing you've done

He always marched to some other drum
You did all any mother could do
He was His Father's son.

Mary carried his sandals. Stood by his side.
Memories, sweet reflections, shone in His eyes
"Take care of Mary, for my time has come
I'll always love you, Mom."

Mary, it's nothing you've done
He always marched to some other drum
You did all any mother could do
He was His Father's son. [Ⓐ]

www.baxterblack.com

Curious?

Find interesting stories and the latest in agricultural news in...



602-B N. Parkerson
P.O. Box 475 • Crowley, LA 70527-0475
Office: 337-788-5151
E-mail: anne@lafarmranch.com



Original bulk plant in Eunice • Serving rice grain dryers • 2000 gal. farm tanks



Nick Francois and his family - wife Brooke and kids Jacqueline (5 years old), John-Allen (3 years old) and Charlie Mac (11 months old)

ReedGas Propane Company was established in 1935.

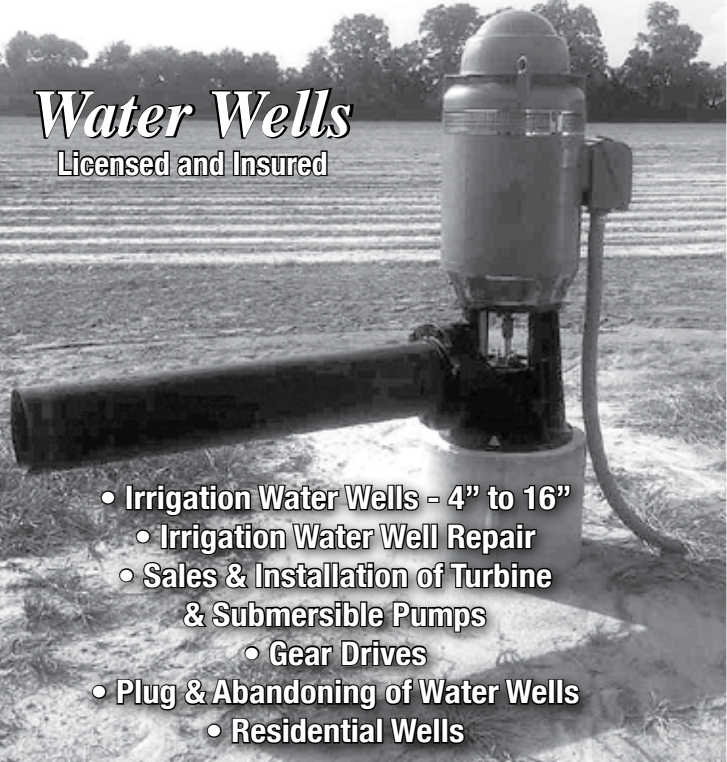
- WE SERVE** • Farms • Crop Dusters • Construction • Commercial • Trucking Accounts
- WE OFFER** • Transport & Bobtail Loads of Metered Quality Gasoline • Jet Fuel
• Dyed Diesel • Lo Sulfur Diesel and DEF Diesel Exhaust Fluid
• Full Line of Phillips Lubricants, Grease, Motor Oil, Gear Oil, and Drip Oil in Quarts, Gallon, 5 Gallon and 55 Gallon Drums - *Free Delivery*
• We Loan Farm Tanks and Pumps
• 24-Hour Service Guaranteed



ReedGas Propane Company
1706 Aymond Street, Eunice, LA 70535
Phone: 1-800-737-5273
E-mail: Shaunreedap@bellsouth.net

R.A.M. DRILLING, LLC

Water Wells
Licensed and Insured



- Irrigation Water Wells - 4" to 16"
- Irrigation Water Well Repair
- Sales & Installation of Turbine & Submersible Pumps
 - Gear Drives
- Plug & Abandoning of Water Wells
- Residential Wells

Alan Miller ~ (318) 308-1861

\$199
Per Month

Ask us about different
package options!

JOHN DEERE
FINANCIAL

POWERED BY
SUNSHINE

3025E TRACTOR PACKAGE

- Rotary Cutter
- Loader
- Trailer

\$199¹ PER MO.



GATOR™ XUV560E

\$97² PER MO.



See all package deals at

SUNEQUIP.COM



(1) Offer valid on new 3025E Compact Tractor, Loader, Rotary Cutter, and 20' Trailer through 4/30/2020. Subject to approved installment credit with John Deere Financial. Payment calculated with 25% down payment. Example: a purchase of \$22,288.00 with 25% down payment, monthly payment of \$199.00 at 0% APR for 84 months. Taxes, freight, set up and delivery charges not included. Valid at all Sunshine locations. Prices and models may vary by dealer. Offer available on new equipment only. Prices and savings in U.S. dollars. (2) Offer valid on qualifying purchases made between February 4, 2020 to April 30, 2020. Subject to approved installment credit with John Deere Financial, for consumer use only. Down payment may be required. Average down payment is 20%. \$97 monthly payment based on MSRP of \$8999.00 with \$1719.80 down payment or trade-in, 84 months at 4.9% APR. Attachments, taxes, freight, setup and delivery charges could increase monthly payment. Available at participating U.S. dealers. Prices and models may vary by dealer. Offer available on new John Deere Gator Utility Vehicles and in the U.S. only. Prices and savings in U.S. dollars.

Farmers begin planting amid uncertain prices

BATON ROUGE — Planting is under-way or about to start for most crops, and farmers are watching the markets closely as the world economy reels from the fall-out created by the novel coronavirus.

LSU AgCenter economist Michael Deliberto said commodities are looking better this week, and the stock market has improved. But uncertainty from the pandemic is a dominant factor in the economy.

“This uncertainty has translated into downward pressure on commodity prices. As uncertainty begins to resolve in the coming weeks and months, the outlook on usage and demand will have more clarity,” he said.

Markets will begin to focus on production and growing season issues as well as on how demand might evolve.

“The markets have improved a little from last week,” Deliberto said. “Corn and soybean futures have started the week up while cotton started the week down. U.S. stock indices also are higher from last week.”

“As uncertainty begins to resolve in the coming weeks and months, the outlook on usage and demand will have more clarity,” he added. “As such, markets will begin to



Farmer Michael Fruge, of Eunice, loads rice into a tractor-trailer to be hauled to a nearby grain elevator in August, 2019. Photo by Bruce Schultz/LSU AgCenter

WE BUILD CUSTOM IRRIGATION PUMPS TO KEEP YOUR IRRIGATION SYSTEM PUMPING – AND YOUR CROPS GROWING THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

4" - 24" Discharge (from 1000 – 15,000 GPM) both Stationary & Portable Pumps
All Pumps can be powered by Tractor, Power Unit, or Electric Motor



DEHART'S WELDING & FABRICATING LLC

12817 West LA Hwy. 335, Abbeville, LA 70510

337-893-6604

www.dehartswelding.com



DeHart's Welding & Fabricating is known for building tough, long-lasting irrigation pump systems and best of all, we'll build you exactly what you need! We can build custom pumping units in as little as seven to fourteen days.

Come to us for your:

- Portable Irrigation Pumps
- Standard or Custom-sized pump
- Parts, Repair and Service of all Pumps

Our Custom Irrigation Pumps can:

- Provide Crop Irrigation of surface water to underground irrigation
- Add or remove water from fish ponds, crawfish ponds or rice fields
- Remove water from low lying areas; water fowl, grazing pastures, etc.

focus on production and growing season issues as well as how demand might evolve.”

Grain markets are moving higher, building on last week’s recoveries in soybeans and wheat, with speculation that global buyers will boost purchases to increase food security reserves.

Rice has made a big jump in price, with May contracts on March 23 for \$13.35 per hundred-weight, or \$21.63 a barrel, or about \$6 a bushel. Not much rice may be left on-farm for old crop prices to continue to increase.

“This is a function of lower supply really driving the price up,” Deliberto said.

Increased rice exports have boosted prices, and demand is good for rough and milled rice. Milling continues to satisfy commitments to Latin America and Mexico buyers.

“Another factor for the jump may be that outside funds are looking into the commodities such as rice,” he said.

Cotton has not fared well in the past few days, with prices falling to the lowest levels since 2009. May cotton was staying above 50 cents a pound on March 23.

“There are also concerns the plunge to an 18-year low in crude oil futures will push more textile production to synthetic fibers when global textile plants resume normal operations,” Deliberto said.

Soybean prices remain low, below \$9 a bushel, a price that makes the commodity attractive to buyers.

“U.S. soybeans are competitively priced, and traders are on alert for any signs of Chinese demand for U.S. supplies. Slowing U.S. exports are hurting prices among other factors,” he said.

Corn prices in the mid-\$3-per-bushel range have benefitted recently from increased export demand, but it’s not known if that is a trend. Also unknown is the effect of the sharp drop in crude oil prices on the ethanol industry outlook, he said.

There is some expectation that the Chinese will be buying more commodities.

“That adds to the positive tone today, with stock index futures erasing steep overnight losses


this morning ahead of the opening on Wall Street after the Federal Reserve moved to inject a large, unprecedented expansion in programs to provide more liquidity to the markets,” Deliberto said on March 23.

There is talk that the economic stimulus bill in the Senate may include funds for another round of Market Facilitation Payments.

Last week’s trading was based more on fear than reason, Deliberto said.

“It’s often said markets need a calming influence before some semblance of normalcy can return,” he said.

Investors are turning to the U.S. dollar, he added.

“It quickly displaced gold, which has lost nearly 15% in the past two weeks,” he said. 



Capital Bedding
COMPANY

100 YEARS
EST. 1920

**LONG BEFORE THE HARVEST,
WORKERS NEED GOOD SLEEP**

**Steel Bunk Beds
& Bunk Mattresses.**
Made in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

sales@capitalbed.com www.CAPITALBED.com Factory: 225-357-2253

Has the light been turned on?



Dave Foster
CEO
Cattle Producers of La.

If the following statement is true, “less than 2% of the U.S. population is in production agriculture” than the other 98% is learning what the farmer/rancher impact is to their food supply.

Since February we have experienced the effects of COVID-19. Going to the grocery store and finding the meat counter empty may spark the question

“where is the meat”? at that moment the butcher or meat department manager has the opportunity to tell “our story”. Let’s hope!

A few quotes I picked up in the last month are worth sharing. From Allan Savory, 84, a Zimbabwean ecologist, livestock farmer and president and co-founder of the Savory Institute, “without agriculture it is not possible to have a city, stock market, bank, university, church or army. Agriculture is the foundation of civilization and a stable economy”. From the LA Farm Bureau

program, The Voice, “in 1920 each farmer fed 19 mouths, in 1970 fed 26 mouths and in 2013 each farmer fed 155 mouths and counting”.

Another quote “maybe now society will realize we can make it without celebrities and professional sports, but we can’t make it without farmers and ranchers”. Yes, the timing may be right to tell our story, however, not throw it in their face or rub it in that we have our food supply in the backyard, but take this opportunity to enlighten our friends and neighbors about the importance of agriculture.

Take advantage of this time when “the light is turned on” and if you are not familiar with agriculture ask a farmer/rancher what they do. When we have situations like this COVID-19 there are some who take advantage, yes, I am talking about the “Big Four” meat companies. As the stock market crashed in March so did the Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME) futures market for live cattle and feeder cattle. Live cattle prices went from \$120.00 cwt. in January to \$105.00 cwt. on March 16 with the April future’s live cattle spot price at \$92.00 cwt. The boxed beef cutout value ending on March 20 was \$45.61 higher than the previous week at \$253.75 cwt for Choice. Feeder cattle prices at our local auction markets in Louisiana the week of March 16 were down \$30.00 cwt.

from January.

Just when our feeder prices were gaining ground and moving towards being equal to last years prices this virus hit and the prices moved south. Did the demand for our grazing type calves decrease? Did the wheat grazing area dry up or freeze out? Did the production of summer grass prediction change from good to very good to no grazing available? NO! What changed was people taking advantage of a crisis. The meat counters in the grocery stores are empty so why is the price to ranchers for their cattle coming out of the feedlot lower? The answer is because the four major packing companies who process over 80% of the cattle supply can. Simple! The marketing system for cattle is broken, however the light is on and the 98% of the population of the U.S has the opportunity to see what and why it is happening. I will now get off my soapbox and encourage all the farmers, ranchers and those in agribusiness to TELL YOUR STORY!

May April’s weather be a blessing to your crops and may the sun and warmer temperature bless the new-born calves. For more information call 888-528-6999 or go to lacattle.org.

M.A. Patout & Son Limited, LLC



3512 J. Patout Burns Road, Jeanerette, LA 70544

Office Hours: Monday - Friday 8 AM - 4:30 PM • Office: 337.276.4592 • Fax: 337.276.4247 • www.mapatout.com

YOUR FIRM FOR A LIFETIME



MEET CHARLES ABSHIRE
CPA Partner/ Tax Department

Charles has over 36 years of Public Accounting experience, specializes in taxes and is based out of our Crowley Office. Charles graduated from USL in 1974, and currently serves as Treasurer of the Crowley Optimist

Club and a Board Member of Gospel Oaks Ministry.

Call Charles today to find out how he can help with your accounting and financial needs.



103 North Avenue F, Crowley, Louisiana
337.783.5693 | BroussardPoche.com

First South Farm Credit distributes over \$19.3 million in cash to its member/borrowers


First South Farm Credit announced today that it will distribute \$19.3 million in patronage refund checks to its member/borrowers in April. A patronage refund is a payment from a cooperative to a member/borrower based on its earnings and financial performance in proportion to the borrower's use of the cooperative. "In keeping with our continued commitment to the cooperative principle of returning earnings to our member/borrowers, we are pleased to announce that our Board of Directors approved a cash patronage distribution of \$19.3 million," said John Barnard, CEO of First South.

"This is First South's 25th consecutive year of returning a patronage refund to its members, while still preserving maintaining a strong capital position," said Daniel Mattingly, Chairman of the First South Farm Credit Board of Directors. "First South continued to offer competitive interest rates and has provided declarations of \$392 million in patronage refunds over that 25 year period."

Barnard stated, "By offering competitive interest rates and distributing a portion of our profits to our mem-

ber/borrowers, we reduce their effective cost of borrowing."

First South Farm Credit is a member-owned cooperative providing short-, intermediate- and long-term financing and related services to full- and part-time farmers, agricultural-related businesses and rural landowners in Alabama, Louisiana, and

Mississippi. First South serves approximately 9,000 member/borrowers with loans outstanding totaling over \$2.2 billion through its network of 44 branch offices in its three-state territory. As a part of the national Farm Credit System, First South Farm Credit has been serving rural communities for over 100 years. 

TERRACER MODEL 24

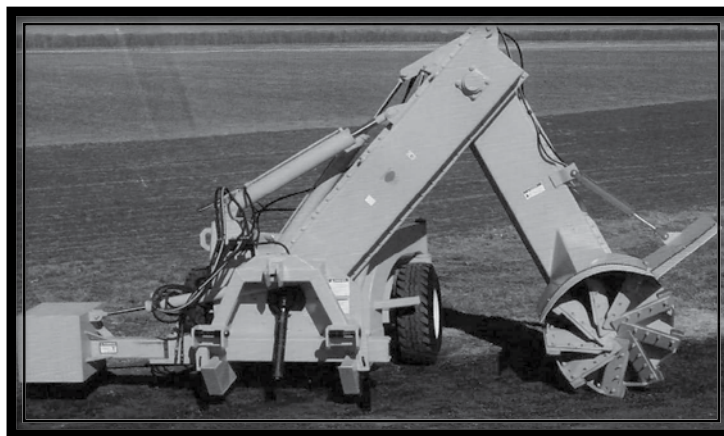


BABY SIDE-ARM



ONE Tractor, ONE Machine, ONE Operator!
Get the Job Done Quickly, Easily, Accurately and Inexpensively.

ORIGINAL SIDE-ARM



THE MOST EFFICIENT WAY TO CONSTRUCT SURFACE DRAINAGE
DITCHES, CLEAN WATERWAYS, AND REBUILD TERRACES.

P & P Marketing Services


D. (Pat) Patterson • 10268 Gillespie Oak Dr. • Lakeland, TN 38002
Phone: 901-867-8972 • Cell: 901-647-7446

Manufactures Representative



A
Cajun
Tradition

FEZZO'S
Seafood,
Steakhouse
and Oyster Bar



Crowley
337.783.5515
Scott
337.261.2464
Broussard
337.330.2302

Serving Acadiana with Three
Convenient Locations.

www.fezzos.com

Strain urges everyone to continue to follow CDC guidelines

Dr. Mike Strain, Commissioner of the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry, is concerned that folks in rural parishes are not abiding by the stay-at-home orders issued to keep the coronavirus in check.

It's a part of the close-knit nature of rural life to socialize and have gatherings for barbecues and crawfish boils. But Strain is advising that now is the time to stay at home so that we will continue to have those friends and relatives for the future.

Strain urges everyone to continue to follow CDC guidelines for health, hygiene, cleaning and disinfection.

The coronavirus' impact on Louisiana's population becomes more obvious every day. For Strain, whose friends span the state, he knows several individuals stricken with the virus, including family members, friends in state government and several people involved in agriculture.

He said now is not the time to relax rules for social distancing. "We're not there yet. We are now at the end of the beginning."

He said most of the focus has been on urban populations, but rural areas need to observe social distancing and stay-at-home orders as well. "We're telling everybody they need to take this serious. In rural areas, they are not taking this as seriously as they should. It can really hit a rural area hard."

Strain said farmers tend to lead a healthy lifestyle, and they are usually working outdoors. And they are accustomed to working alone. Farmers are usually social distancing as they work the fields and pastures, Strain said. "Also farmers practice a lot of good hygiene. They are used to dealing with herd health."

He said livestock producers understand diseases, vaccines and the need to isolate new or sick animals.

He said the U.S. Department of Homeland Security has recognized agriculture as critical infrastructure, and the following have been identified as essential:

- Workers supporting groceries and other retail businesses that sell food and beverage products.
- Restaurant carry-out, delivery and quick-serve food operations.
- Food manufacturing employees and agricultural processors.
- Farm workers and support service workers.
- Agriculture warehouse, distribution and transportation workers.
- Governmental agencies involved in regulatory and program support of agriculture.
- Workers who support the manufacture and distribution of forest products.
- Employees who make and maintain agricul-

ture equipment.

"It is imperative for our national security that we continue to provide food, fiber, energy and health requirements for the human and animal populations. We must ensure these vital goods and services are protected and not interrupted," said Strain. "We are committed to facing this crisis head on and working as a team at the national, state and local levels."

Getting imported farm labor into the U.S. – crucial to the state's sugar industry and crawfish producers and processors -- has been a bigger problem since coronavirus reached the U.S., Strain said, but federal agencies have responded to concerns. "The USDA stepped up to the plate. The USDA has leaned forward with the Department of Labor."

Now, foreign workers who went through the required interview will be allowed into the U.S.

Strain said commodity prices have not been hurt as severely as stocks. "By and large, they have been fairly stable."

But he said corn has been hit the hardest, probably because of the price drop in oil prices from the decreased demand for fuel and the lowered prices.

He said an anticipated 25 percent drop in nationwide corn acreage will probably shift more land to soybeans.

Strain said this historic crisis has shown citizens the value of American agriculture. "More than ever, we must recognize the importance of our farmers, ranchers, foresters and producers. They are still working to keep the food supply chain plentiful, safe and healthy."

Strain said there is an increased demand worldwide for food produced in the U.S., although getting those products overseas on ships could be a problem.

"If a sailor gets sick, no one will board that vessel," he explained.

He said it's important to have backup personnel in the shipping industry as well as inspectors.

At food processing facilities, staffing is a challenge also, he said. As people get sick, there may be no one to replace them. "For food inspectors, we do not have significant additional workers, should our workforce get sick. We've been working very hard to keep those things in motion."

Now that restaurants are only open for pick-up and delivery service, he said, people are cooking more at home and that means grocery spending has jumped considerably. Not just toilet paper is in short supply at groceries.

"Our biggest struggle is to keep sufficient food production to stock the grocery shelves."

He said he got a frantic call from someone who mistakenly thought the nation has a reserve of milk



Dr. Mike Strain, Commissioner of the Louisiana Department of Agriculture and Forestry


being kept out of the marketplace. Strain said he tried to explain that dairy facilities are operating at full throttle and that dairy products are in the marketplace as soon as they are processed, packaged and shipped. "You can't milk that cow any harder."

Strain said he understands the problems currently faced by crawfish producers with decreased demand from restaurants and sharply lower prices. "A lot of farmers break even on rice and make money on crawfish."

Strain said the public can help by buying crawfish, maybe even a sack to boil at home to freeze the tail meat. He said consumers should consider buying not only crawfish but other Louisiana food items. "Now's the time to learn canning and to put products up."

As a veterinarian, Strain knows the science of diseases and how they spread. He said antibiotic supplies for humans and animals are in short supply.

So far, he said, it does not appear that domestic animals are susceptible to the coronavirus. "Less than 10 animals worldwide have tested positive. It's not felt that animals can contract or convey the virus."

This disease originally jumped in China from a bat to a pangolin, a critter like the armadillo, and then to humans. Strain said viruses historically have originated in a lower species and then mutated to allow an infection of humans. Several influenza strains started in birds, first in wild flocks then moving to domestic birds. 

FSA is delivering programs and services



Craig A. McCain
FSA State
Executive Director

As always, I hope that this message finds you and your family healthy and happy. However, our current circumstances have increased our consciousness about remaining healthy. I hope that you and your family are following the “Stay at Home Order” along with “Social Distancing” and personal hygiene

protocols in order to mitigate the spread of the COVID-19 virus. Recognizing the necessity of agriculture to our security both financially and calorically, agriculture has been deemed as an essential service during this period of mitigation. As such, USDA Service Center Agencies will continue to provide services, albeit under precautionary protocols. While we are not doing business face to face with customers, staff is available via telephone or email to counsel you and to facilitate normal business transactions for Farm Programs, Farm Loan Programs and Conservation programs. The staff of FSA and NRCS are ready willing and able to work with you to continue to provide the assistance that you need. Thank you for your hard work and dedication during a very difficult time and please, be safe and follow the safety protocols.

Contacting FSA

FSA will be accepting additional forms and applications by facsimile or electronic signature. Some services are also available online to customers with an eAuth account, which provides access to the farmers.gov portal where producers can view USDA farm loan information and payments and view and track certain USDA program applications and payments. Customers can track payments, report completed practices, request conservation assistance and electronically sign documents. Customers who do not already have an eAuth account can enroll at farmers.gov/sign-in.

FSA encourages producers to contact their county office to discuss these programs and temporary changes to farm loan deadlines and the loan servicing options available. For Service Center contact information, visit farmers.gov/coronavirus.

FSA Makes Changes to Farm Loan, Disaster, Conservation and Safety Net Programs to Make it Easier for Customers to Conduct

Business - FSA Services Available by Phone Appointment Only

USDA’s Farm Service Agency (FSA) county offices are open in Louisiana by phone appointment only until further notice, and FSA staff are available to continue helping agricultural producers with program signups, loan servicing and other important actions. Additionally, FSA is relaxing the loan-making process and adding flexibilities for servicing direct and guaranteed loans to provide credit to producers in need.

FSA Service Centers are open for business by phone appointment only. While our program delivery staff will continue to come into to the office, they will be working with our agricultural producers by phone and using email and online tools whenever possible.

FSA is delivering programs and services, including:

- Farm loans;
- Commodity loans;
- Farm Storage Facility Loan program;
- Disaster assistance programs, including signup for the Wildfire and Hurricane Indemnity Program Plus (this includes producers now eligible because of losses due to drought and excess moisture in 2018 and 2019);
- Safety net programs, including 2020 signup for the Agriculture Risk Coverage and Price Loss Coverage programs;
- Conservation programs; and
- Acreage reports.

Relaxing the Farm Loan-Making Process

FSA is relaxing the loan-making process, including:

- Extending the deadline for applicants to complete farm loan applications;
- Preparing Direct Loans documents even if FSA is unable to complete lien and record searches because of closed government buildings. Once those searches are complete, FSA would close the loan; and

- Closing loans if the required lien position on the primary security is perfected, even for loans that require additional security and those lien searches, filings and recordings cannot be obtained because of closed government buildings.

Servicing Direct Loans

FSA is extending deadlines for producers to respond to loan servicing actions, including loan deferral consideration for financially distressed and delinquent borrowers.

FSA will temporarily suspend loan accelerations, non-judicial foreclosures, and referring foreclosures to the Department of Justice. The U.S. Attorney’s Office will make the determination whether to stop foreclosures and evictions on accounts under its jurisdiction.

Servicing Guaranteed Loans


Guarantee lenders can self-certify, providing their borrowers with:

- Subsequent-year operating loan advances on lines of credit;
- Emergency advances on lines of credit.

FSA will consider guaranteed lender requests for:

- Temporary payment deferral consideration when borrowers do not have a feasible plan reflecting that family living expenses, operating expenses and debt can be repaid; and
- Temporary forbearance consideration for borrowers on loan liquidation and foreclosure actions.

Important Dates to remember

- **May 15** is the last day to sign up for Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) Grasslands
- **June 30** is the last day to sign up for 2020 ARCPLC
- **Ongoing into 2020** is the sign-up period for WHIP+ 



Stocking crawfish



Mark Shirley
Crawfish Specialist
LSU AgCenter

Farmers are just about finished planting the 2020 rice crop. Over the next six to eight weeks, the rice will be tall enough for the permanent flood and it will be time to stock the rice fields with crawfish for production next season. Permanent ponds on the other hand, usually do not need to be restocked. That is a judgement call that depends on what you caught this season and how many burrows are present along the levees.

The success or failure of a crawfish pond can sometimes be traced back to when, how and what crawfish were added to the field. Survival of the brood stock that are placed in the pond is critical for reproduction and populating the pond in the fall.

Rice fields should be stocked about 45 to 50 days post-planting. By then the rice should be about ten inches tall, starting to tiller and a permanent flood covers the field. If crawfish are placed in the field when the rice is too short, the stand is thin and the water is only a few inches, survival will be very poor. The water will be too hot and there will be no cover for the crawfish to hide. They may also do some damage by feeding on the young rice.

Permanent ponds that did well this season should have plenty of crawfish left over and they will populate the pond in the fall. Those carry-over crawfish will also be the ones that will be available to harvest next winter. A check of the levee should reveal burrows every few feet. Some crawfish will have matured and burrowed in during late March and more new burrows should be evident all through April and May. Adding additional stock to a



When stocking the ponds, what is vitally important is that the stock crawfish are healthy, and the majority are mature. At least half of the crawfish in a sack should be female and at least half of those should be mature.

pond under these circumstances will only lead to overcrowding and stunting next season. The addition of more stock is also an unnecessary expense.

The key to brood stock survival is to move the crawfish from the source to the new pond as quick as possible. Heat, the length of time out of water and rough handling can cause high mortality and a slim crop next season. Keep in mind that this is an aquatic animal that is sensitive to being out of the water under hot conditions and can be injured if the sacks are bounced about.

With those things in mind, move crawfish into the new pond on a cloudy, cool or rainy day. If the weather won't cooperate, at least move them early in the morning or late in the evening. Move the crawfish as quickly as possible. Crawfish packed in sacks for more than a few hours will be stressed and possibly injured by crushing or their gills may be damaged. The sacks should be covered with a burlap tarp and splashed with non-chlorinated water periodically.

Do you need to stock the biggest crawfish money can buy for stock? Based on research over the last 50 years at LSU and USL (and later ULL), the answer is NO. Genetics has almost no effect on the size of the crawfish or the survival of the crawfish next season. About

Crawfish Tales: Dee Scallan the Louisiana author/storyteller of the CrawfishTales™ book series starring Moby Pincher Crawfish. A grade-school literacy-to-history project sponsored by the Board.

This Week in Louisiana Agriculture: Sponsorship of a weekly agriculture television show to promote and inform the Louisiana crawfish industry.

Louisiana Radio Network: Weekly radio program specifically prepared to Louisiana crawfish farmers and Louisiana consumers with the latest information on everything from research to markets to news impacting the crawfish industry.

Nexstar: Digital video advertising services on the social media platforms of Facebook and Instagram in order to promote the Louisiana crawfish industry.

Fields Group: Commercial broadcast TV spots promoting the Louisiana crawfish industry.

LSU AgCenter: Research project to better serve the interest of the Louisiana crawfish industry.

RAD Consulting Group: Maintain and update the Louisiana Crawfish Promotion and Research Board website www.crawfish.org.

University of Lafayette: Development of an automated crawfish peeling machine.




WWW.CRAWFISH.ORG

95 percent of the size variability is attributed to the conditions the young crawfish are subjected to. Crowding is the most significant factor followed by water quality and food supply. So, pound for pound, whether you have a pound of 10 large crawfish or a pound of 20 smaller crawfish, once they spawn in the fall, you will have about the same number of young produced.


What is vitally important is that the stock crawfish are healthy, and the majority are mature. At least half of the crawfish in a sack should be female and at least half of those should be mature. The immature ones are usually lighter in color and may have recently molted. Also check the source crawfish for any White River Crawfish. If any white crawfish are present, then every sack should be examined to remove the white crawfish. The health of the crawfish can be checked by opening a few and noting the color of the fat in the head. Bright yellow fat is good. Brown or pale-yellow fat indicates a crawfish that is in poor health and may not survive until the fall.

Rice fields should be stocked with 50 to 60 pounds of crawfish per acre and distributed into each cut of the field. Some producers put more than that as insurance if conditions are less favorable for survival. Fresh levees with no vegetative cover can expose crawfish to birds and other predators as they begin to dig their burrows. Under these conditions, a few extra pounds might be warranted.

Finally, put the crawfish into the water, not on the bank. I believe that old custom comes from years ago when farmers would buy crawfish that were stored in a cooler overnight. It would make sense to let a crawfish warm up before crawling into the pond of warm water. Moving that aquatic animal from one pond to the new pond in a few hours will have a much higher survival rate which is the most important factor when stocking crawfish.

More details on stocking crawfish can be found in the Crawfish Production Manual, available free on the LSU AgCenter's web site, lsuagcenter.com. In the upper left hand corner, in the search line, type in Crawfish Production. 





DSB, CPA's

DUGAS, SOILEAU & BREAUX, L.L.C.
CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

Kenneth R. Dugas, CPA
S. Scott Soileau, CPA
Troy J. Breaux, CPA
Nathan J. Trahan, CPA
Frank C. Jabusch III, CPA


Associates

Eugene C. Gilder, CPA

Manager

Bernadette D. Alleman, CPA

122
E. 5th St.
Crowley
(337) 783-0650
fax (337) 783-7238




FARMERS RICE MILLING COMPANY

and HARDY RICE DRYER

Serving the Domestic and Export Rice Industry Since 1917

Contact
Aaron Fontenot or Patrick Hartwell

1-337-588-4471 1-337-433-5205



MEMBERS OF THE POWELL GROUP

3211 Hwy 397, Lake Charles, LA 70615

MAXIM'S WATER WELL SERVICE INC.

- Irrigation & Residential
- Water Well Drilling
- Service Work / Repairs
- Plug & Abandon Wells
- All Brands Of Pumps Sold & Repaired
- Gearheads & Drive Shafts Sold & Repaired
- Any size & type engine rental
- Licensed & Insured

54 Years Experience

NOW DOING REVERSE
FLOW DRILLING



Locally Owned & Operated By
Herschel L. Bourque
 8461 Hwy 99 Welsh, LA 70591
337-734-2223

WE SELL LAND

\$1.1 BILLION
293,000 ACRES
 sold company wide
 in 2018

McNeese State agricultural interns getting hands-on experience

Two agricultural sciences majors in McNeese State University's Harold and Pearl Dripps School of Agricultural Sciences are getting hands-on experience in their fields this semester.

Senior Mackenzie Martinez, from Zwolle, is currently interning with the U.S. House of Representatives Committee on Agriculture in Washington, D.C. Martinez became interested in animal science through youth programs such as 4-H and FFA.

"I applied for this internship because I was interested in seeing first-hand the policy making that heavily influences the agricultural industry," she says. "I also wanted to see if I would be happy pursuing a full-time career in the agricultural law and policy field."

Her responsibilities include facilitating hearings, attending briefings and completing projects as

assigned by staffers. Her education at McNeese, she says, has proven to be an important foundation for her work.

"My animal science classes have been the highlight of my education from McNeese," she says. "All of the classes I have taken have proven critical to understanding the agriculture-related issues the committee is currently working on."

She says her studies also help her to be a better constituent and more engaged in the political process. "I have gained such a real-world understanding of these concepts and reality that producers face. This internship has certainly helped me confirm that this is the direction and line of work I want to pursue as I begin to establish a professional career."

Lucy Ryder, from Lake Charles, is a pre-veterinary medicine student. She says that her time both studying and participating in rodeo at McNeese has



Agricultural sciences major Lucy Ryder is studying equine sports science this semester at Nottingham Trent University in Nottingham, England. Studying abroad has given her the chance to visit local attractions, including the statue of famous British football manager Brian Clough.



BLAKE CHARLES
 Northern Louisiana
 Land Specialist
(337) 945-4061
 blake.charles@whitetailproperties.com

CONTACT YOUR LOCAL LAND SPECIALIST TO LEARN MORE ABOUT BUYING AND SELLING HUNTING, FARM, RANCH AND TIMBERLAND



WHITETAIL PROPERTIES REAL ESTATE
 HUNTING | RANCH | FARM | TIMBER

WHITETAILPROPERTIES.COM

Whitetail Properties Real Estate, LLC (d/b/a Whitetail Properties) | Nebraska & North Dakota (SBA Wholesaler) | Property Management | Real Estate LLC | Lic. in IL, MO, IA, KS, KY, NE & OK - Dan Pappas, Broker | Lic. in AR, CO, GA, MN, ND, TN, SD & WI - Jeff Evans, Broker | Lic. in FL, OH, & PA - Kirk Gilbert, Broker | Lic. in NM & TX - Tony Kellington, Broker | Lic. in HI - John Kuyker, Broker | Lic. in LA, MS, GA & AL - Sybil Stewart, Broker | Lic. in TN - Chris Wakefield, Broker | Lic. in TN - Bobby Powers, Broker | Lic. in NC - Johnny Ball, Broker | Lic. in SC - Rick Britt, Broker | Lic. in NC - Rick Baugh, Broker | Lic. in MI - Edmund Joel Nagasaki, Broker

HEBERT'S QUALITY WELDING & FABRICATION, LLC

AUGER FLIGHTING REPLACEMENT

HEBERT'S QUALITY WELDING & FABRICATION, LLC

• 1005 AMERICAN LEGION DR • RAYNE, LA 70578 • HEBERTSQWF@GMAIL.COM • WWW.HEBERTSQWF.COM • 337-250-0401 • LEAVE MESSAGE

helped foster her interest in horses and mechanics, which led her to a study abroad program in equine sports science at Nottingham Trent University in Nottingham, England.

“Last spring, I saw a flier about a new exchange program that McNeese was offering,” she says. “I had an hour and decided to stop into the Office of International Programs. Program director Preble Girard discussed the opportunity with me and I realized timing would work out perfectly. I decided to take the plunge and apply for a set of courses that were specific to my interests abroad.”

Ryder says that living abroad this semester and studying at a university that is structured very differently than U.S. classrooms have been eye-opening and rewarding experiences.

“I’ve met a close-knit group of 50 exchange students from all over the world including Brazil, Australia, Italy and France. I’ve never lived in a largely populated area and there are so many restaurants and establishments all within walking distance. It has definitely been a culture shock,” she says.

Recently accepted into the Louisiana State University School of Veterinary Medicine, Ryder says that her education at McNeese and the opportunities she’s had as a student have helped her pursue her career goals.

“McNeese was my first choice because of its proximity to home, the Honors College and the faculty,” she says. “While on a tour of the campus my senior year in high school, I met

some of my professors and was amazed at how welcoming everyone was. Choosing McNeese was the right decision for me and McNeese’s College of Agricultural Sciences has prepared me extensively for veterinary school.”

In 2018, McNeese’s Harold and Pearl Dripps School of Agricultural Sciences hosted its first international intern from Nottingham Trent University. Dr. Chip LeMieux, dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences, says that the relationships formed through international internships benefit students not just by providing experiences, but by bringing universities together.

“When students come to our campus to participate in study abroad or internship programs, it creates a relationship between McNeese and other universities that can go on to also benefit students from both universities,” he says. “And when our students participate in these programs, they demonstrate the quality of edu-

cation at McNeese through their expertise. We encourage all of our students to take advantage of the internship and work study opportunities offered through McNeese.”



Senior agricultural sciences student Mackenzie Martinez, right, recently met with intern Chance Mitchell from Texas Tech and U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue. Martinez is currently interning with the House of Representatives Committee on Agriculture in Washington, D.C.

Port Aggregates, Inc.



*Serving
Southwest
Louisiana
Since 1979*

(337) 824-ROCK (7625)
314 N. Main St., Jennings



• Limestone • Concrete • Pre-Cast Concrete Products

LSU AgCenter sets virtual wheat, oat tour

WINNSBORO — The COVID-19 pandemic has interrupted many business-as-usual operations across the state and nation, increasing the use of terms like fluid, flexible and paused as groups and institutions strive to continue to offer critical programs and information to the public.

The agriculture industry knows only too well how tentative plans can be under normal circumstances without the added complications due to the current coronavirus crisis.

In response, the LSU AgCenter annual wheat and oat field day traditionally held at the Macon Ridge Research Station will follow a virtual presentation format, replacing the usual on-site tours with recorded videos accessible on YouTube and other platforms.

“The LSU AgCenter is committed to providing relevant programs that address current and emerging issues faced by producers who are working diligently to support our agricultural food chain,” said AgCenter regional director Melissa Cater. “AgCenter experts will be filming the virtual learning opportunities in April to ensure the safety of agricultural producers and industry representatives as well as our faculty and staff.”



The field tours will be available for viewing through Louisiana Delta Crop Videos on YouTube at www.bit.ly/deltacrops and will be online beginning April 23.

“Even though we had a mild and very wet winter, wheat at the station looks excellent and yield potential is good,” said AgCenter plant pathologist Trey Price.

Despite some issues affecting vernalization with a few varieties, the variety trials are nice overall.

“Wheat remains a viable winter crop option for producers as long as they can get a stand


established in the fall,” Price said.

“We work closely with LSU AgCenter wheat breeder Steve Harrison to test and develop varieties adapted to our area and the southeastern United States,” he added.

Thousands of plots of breeder selections and commercial varieties are screened for multiple diseases at the AgCenter Macon Ridge Research Station.

“Wheat scab is our major concern in Louisiana now due to weather patterns, reduced tillage and increased corn production, and we use a misted, inoculated nursery to challenge entries annually,” Price said.

Field tour presentations will include:

- Insect issues in cover crop and wheat production by AgCenter entomologist Sebe Brown.
- Wheat and oat breeding nursery tour by AgCenter plant breeder Steve Harrison.
- Wheat disease and production update by AgCenter plant pathologist and wheat specialist Boyd Padgett.
- Corn fertilization by AgCenter agronomist Rasel Parvej.
- Official Variety Trial and wheat scab nursery tour by Trey Price. 



 **First South**
Farm Credit

Let's talk

800-955-1722 | FIRSTSOUTHLAND.COM





Let First South share its profits with you.

First South Farm Credit is an agricultural cooperative that has shared more than \$392 million with its borrowers for 25 consecutive years. In 2020 alone, First South borrowers will receive their portion of \$19.3 million in refunds.


When you're ready to be more than just a customer, let's talk!


YOUR PARTNER IN
PROGRESS

DEMCO gives your business the power to grow.

DEMCO

A Touchstone Energy Cooperative 

 /DEMCOLouisiana

demco.org

Heart of Texas

Special Replacement Female Sale

POSTPONED
TO MAY 16TH
12 NOON

**Groesbeck Auction & Livestock Co.,
Groesbeck, TX**

(Located 2 miles east of Groesbeck on Hwy. 164)

1,250 HEAD

of Quality Replacement Females including Pairs, Bred Cows, Bred & Open Heifers, Certified F1s, True F1s, Brangus, Hereford, Brahman and other premium quality replacements.

**Sale cattle listings
available online
Thursday, March 26 @
JohnsonCattleMarketing.com**

**This is a very choice set of replacement
cattle consigned by leading
commercial ranches throughout
Texas. Cattle will be palpated and sold
in uniformly sorted groups to fit any
cattleman's needs.**

MOTEL ACCOMMODATIONS:

Groesbeck
Quality Inn & Suites, 254/729-0077
Days Inn & Suites, 254/729-3335
OYO Motel, 254/729-3017
Mexia
Mexia Comfort Inn, 254/562-0005

Sale managed by

JOHNSON
CATTLE MARKETING

Tom Johnson

440 FM 246

Wortham, Texas 76693

(903) 599-2403

Mobile (817) 291-5121

johnsoncattlemarketing@gmail.com





By ensuring adequate plant nutrition and staying on top of weed and disease control, farmers can protect yield potential in Clearfield and Provisia rice.

Tips for managing Clearfield and Provisia Rice

*By Dr. Tim Walker,
Horizon Ag General Manager*

Rice planting in South Louisiana has pro-

gressed this year, and we're set up for a promising crop at a time when the industry and our rice customers need rice farmers to have a strong year. Farmers have turned to both proven

and new Clearfield and Provisia rice seed from Horizon Ag in large part to take advantage of the outstanding weed control and overall performance potential of these varieties in the region.

With that in mind, there are critical things to keep in mind as we manage this crop for success.

Plant Health/Nutrition

Seeding rates for all varieties in drill-seeded systems have decreased over the last several years. When Clearfield rice varieties were launched almost 20 years ago, seeding rates were often 90-100 lbs per acre. Many farmers in South Louisiana drill Clearfield varieties at 60 lbs per acre today, while the new Provisia varieties are being drilled at 40-50 lbs per acre. Plant nutrition is always extremely important, but especially when plant populations are low because the plant has to put on more grain-producing tillers to compensate for lower plant populations.

Phosphorus (P) has to be adequate in the plant for it to tiller. Phosphorus is most plant-available at a pH of 6.5. When pH is above 7 and plant-available P is low in the soil, deficiencies often show at the tillering stage. Although P deficiencies can be addressed in season, it is best handled prior to permanent flood establishment. If not addressed,



The
Evangeline
BANK AND TRUST COMPANY
VILLE PLATTE CROWLEY ALEXANDRIA PINEVILLE, LA

Main Branch

497 West Main Street • Ville Platte, LA 70586

- Ville Platte 337-363-5541 • Crowley 337-783-0412
- Alexandria 318-443-3700
- Alexandria - Masonic Drive 318-445-4090
- Pineville 318-445-3336
- Pineville - Kings Country 318-640-3000



"Landmark of Dependability"

Online Banking Services: www.therealbank.com
Telephone Banking System 24 Hours
337-363-5548 or 800-427-5548



MEMBER
FDIC

E-mail: evangeline@therealbank.com

yield loss can exceed 20% or more depending on the level of deficiency.

Most soils in south Louisiana have to have **potassium** (K) fertilizer added to produce high yields. I like to think of K as a defender. Early in the season, it promotes root growth. During the season, it aids in photosynthesis, and later in the season, it provides straw strength and helps fight against diseases. The rice cultural system is not void of yield-robbing insects and diseases, hence keep K in ample supply to help have healthy biomass for optimum grain production.

Finally, **Nitrogen** (N) management is key to producing high yields. Nitrogen rates and yield are not linear — a pound of N doesn't produce a pound of grain. Excessive N rates can exacerbate diseases and lodging, whereas N deficiencies cause yield loss.

Nitrogen rate guidelines are provided by Horizon Ag based on multi-site data generated over multiple years by university agronomists. Nitrogen timing is as important as nitrogen rate, especially in early-maturing semi-dwarf varieties. We've observed, year after year, it is best to err on the side of being early with N applications (early with respect to joint movement).

In many cases where water management is exceptional, applying 75-100% of the total N budget at five-leaf rice and establishing a permanent flood for three weeks will result in the best yields for our varieties. For fields where water management isn't ideal, apply at least

50% of the total N prior to flood establishment, with the remaining 50% in two subsequent applications 7-10 days apart, once the flood is stable but before 1/2-inch internode elongation.

Weed Control

Start clean, stay clean is cliché, but there's no better truth for successful rice production. **The best way to control grass is to never let it come up.** Overlapping residual grass materials in both Clearfield and Provisia production is paramount to having clean fields. Competition from grass, especially early in the season, robs yield potential more than you realize. Furthermore, the bigger the grass, the harder it is to kill. Finally, there is no better environment for grass to thrive than in a rice field where soil moisture is sufficient and N and other nutrients are plentiful.

For the Provisia Rice System, residual grass herbicides are needed to minimize the pressure on the weedy rice complex. Provisia herbicide is the best grass herbicide in our rice system today, and Provisia is the **only** herbicide that will control the weedy rice complex. Good coverage is important, so minimizing the grass other than weedy rice will help improve the effectiveness of the Provisia herbicide on weedy rice.

Speaking of coverage, **coverage is key in herbicides and fungicides.** The Provisia herbicide label requires a minimum spray volume of 10 gallons per acre for ground applications. Remember, more water is better with Provisia

herbicide.

As for fungicides, 3-5 gallons per acre spray volumes aren't enough for fungicide applications to control sheath blight and kernel smut. If your aerial applicator will not spray fungicides at 7-10 gallons, pay more to get it sprayed at that volume, or consider hiring someone who will. We are losing too much yield due to insufficient coverage on fungicide spray volumes. University of Arkansas data has shown a 10% yield loss due strictly to an insufficient spray volume. The closer you can get to 10 gpa for fungicides, the more return you will get for your fungicide dollar. ^A

LOUISIANA FARM & RANCH

Need Local Up-to-Date Farm News?



One Year Subscription... Only \$24.00

P.O. Box 475 • Crowley, LA 70527 • 337-783-5151
www.lafarmandranch.com



SOILEAU INDUSTRIES

Chad Soileau
Tim Frugé

337-363-2519 FAX 363-1193
800 N.W. Railroad Ave.
Ville Platte, LA 70586

Soileau Industries Your First Choice in Quality

With over fifty-five years of proven field service, Soileau Industries' PVC products are the first choice of irrigation, municipal and industrial contractors everywhere. Soileau products are the end result of extensive development and one of the most rigorous quality control programs in the industry. That means Soileau PVC products fit better and last longer, saving you dollars year after year.

SOILEAU WILL FIT YOUR NEEDS TO PERFECTION.

- **Pipedrops**
- **Flap Check Valves**
- **Floodgates**
- **Hydrants**
- **PVC Pipe 6"-36"**
- **Minidrops**
- **Custom Fabrications**

For more information or a dealer near you call: 337-363-2519

Cows-Socially distancing before social distancing was cool



Christine Navarre, DVM
LSU AgCenter
Veterinarian

The COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted the importance of social distancing in controlling diseases. Veterinarians have been helping producers develop “social distancing plans” for years but we call them “biosecurity plans”.

Biosecurity is not just about foreign animal diseases like Foot and Mouth Disease, but also about diseases right here in the U.S. that are costly to the beef industry as a whole and to individual operations.

Biosecurity means keeping diseases off the farm. **Biocontainment** means keeping diseases already on the farm from spreading. We tend to lump these together into overall “biosecurity plans” because the principles are the same.

Biosecurity is all about managing risk. We have to look at our management practices, determine the risk of each in terms of disease introduction or spread, and then determine what it would take to minimize that risk. If a practice has a high risk of introducing a disease, but is not too difficult or expensive to control, we put that control measure in place. If the practice is very low risk, but very difficult and/or expensive to control, we accept the risk and move on.

Each disease has its own distinctive characteristics when it comes to control, so looking at each disease individually and trying to determine the risk of introduction or spread of many diseases simultaneously can be

overwhelming. Fortunately we don’t have to do that. There are only a few ways diseases can be transmitted. If the routes of transmission are managed, then the risk of introduction or spread of all diseases, whether foreign or domestic, can be minimized.

Routes of Transmission

- Aerosol (ex. coughing, breathing, sneezing)
- Direct contact (ex. licking, breeding)
- Fomite (ex. needles, boots, buckets)
- Oral (ex. food, water, environment)
- Vector-borne (ex. flies, ticks)
- Zoonotic (ex. Foot and mouth disease, influenza)

Risk Factors

While each operation’s biosecurity plan should be individualized, there are some common risk factors that can be addressed first.

Introduction of New Animals

Buying replacement females and bulls is a fact of life for most producers but with new animals can come diseases. There are two ways to diminish the risk of introducing diseases with new purchases. First is to quarantine new arrivals for 4 weeks. The second is to test for certain diseases.

New herd additions are stressed, and more likely to shed diseases to the original herd. A four week quarantine period helps decrease this risk. It also lets the new cattle get over some of the stresses of relocation before they get exposed to the diseases already in the original herd. It protects both groups.

New arrivals should be quarantined in an area that is separated from the original herd by at least 10 feet of space. This eliminates two modes of disease transmission (aerosol and direct contact), and in doing so eliminates transmission of several diseases.

Remember that sunlight is a great disinfectant, so in general quarantine areas should be in the open and not in barns (provided there is shade). Most organisms survive better in wet conditions, so an area with good drainage would also be desirable.

Testing may also be needed. Some diseases produce lifetime carrier animals that will continue to shed even after a quarantine period (ex. Johne’s, BVD, trichomoniasis, anaplasmosis). The herd veterinarian can help determine which diseases to test for and how to interpret results.

HUGHES MANUFACTURING

CALL NOW
 TO BECOME
 A DEALER!



Serving Louisiana’s farmers for over 25 years...

- Drag Scrapers / Laser Levelers
- Land Levelers
- Water Buffalos / Stubble Rollers
- Ditchers
- 3-point Dollies
- Crawfish Boats
- Irrigation Control

R-H Power Ditcher



34' Folding-wing Laser Leveler



TOP QUALITY STILL AFFORDABLE

1300 AIRPORT RD. | JENNINGS, LA. 70546 | 337-824-2176

| www.hugheswelding.com



DISTRIBUTORS OF

PLUMBING • HEATING • AIR CONDITIONING • ELECTRICAL
 REFRIGERATION • MUNICIPAL • UTILITY • EQUIPMENT • SUPPLIES

Coby Clavier
 Branch Manager
 770 N. C.C. Dusan
 Eunice, LA 70535

Office: 337-457-7324
 1-800-832-8428
 Fax: 337-457-1217
 Email: cclavier@coburns.com

We can also handle all your appliance needs.

Show Animals

Show animals returning home from an event represent a significant biosecurity risk. Young, stressed cattle get commingled with sometimes hundreds of animals representing multiple herds. Show animals can become infected with viruses and shed them for a few weeks of longer even if they don't look sick. Show animals should be treated like new purchases and quarantined on arrival and tested for certain disease based on the herd veterinarian's recommendations.

Fenceline Contact

Just like new purchases, cattle across the fence that have nose to nose contact with your cattle put them at risk (and vice versa). The level of risk depends on the type of cattle.

Sharing/Leasing Bulls

Bulls carry diseases from cow to cow, and potentially from herd to herd. Most devastating are the reproductive diseases, because they don't usually have any outward signs. By the time the problem is noticed, its palpation or calving time, and the pregnancy rate or calf crop is down significantly. Purchase and use only virgin bulls and make sure your cattle stay on your property.

Visitors

With much of the population unfamiliar with agricultural practices, we should encourage visitors to livestock operations. However, some precautions should be taken. All visitors should sign a registry, and be escorted on visits. Non-agriculture visitor groups, especially youth groups, are not likely to bring diseases onto the farm, but they are at risk of leaving with a zoonotic disease (a disease that infects both animals and people). Visitors should be advised to "look but not touch" and should have a place to wash their hands following farm tours.

International visitors are a bigger biosecurity risk. The risk of a foreign visitor bringing something such as Foot and Mouth Disease to our country is low, but the consequences would be devastating to the entire industry and U.S. economy. We also have to consider the potential consequences of our visits to foreign countries. The same principles of quarantine that we apply to cattle should be applied to foreign visitors and Americans returning from travel abroad. Those people that pose a risk to cattle should stay 10 feet away for at least 7 days.

Reusing Needles

Although several diseases can be transmitted through blood, anaplasmosis is the most significant in Louisiana. Reusing needles can transfer enough blood from one cow to another to also transmit anaplasmosis. The same is true for dehorning, tattooing, castration instruments. Wiping needles down between animals is not effective and can potentially damage products being administered.

Controlling the Environment

Preventing spread of diseases already on the farm is also important and we do this through good sanitation. For example, the organisms that cause calf diarrhea are maintained in the environment and in the cows. We can't eliminate them so we have to minimize their impact. The herd veterinarian can help develop strategies to minimize disease spread in the environment.

Maximizing the Immune System

Maximizing the immune system of the herd will minimize impacts of a disease introduction and spread of diseases already in the herd. We do this by minimizing all stressors. Nutritional stress plays a larger role than any other factor in health and production. Other stressors to consider about are heat, cattle handling, weaning, castration and dehorning.

Conclusion

We need to take the lessons learned from the COVID-19 in people to make sure our cattle herds are protected. If you don't have a biosecurity plan, develop one now. If you do have one, re-evaluate it to make sure it is still applicable.

Steps to developing a biosecurity and biocontainment plan

- Do a risk assessment with veterinarian
 - New purchase disease testing plan
 - Quarantine plan
 - New purchases
 - Show cattle
 - Manage stress
 - Manage environment ^A

TERRY'S DIESEL REPAIR & SALES, LLC

"LET US KEEP YOU RUNNING!"
Serving Your Repair Needs Over 39 Years



2005 W. Summers Drive • Abbeville • 893-7569
www.terrystdiesel.com

Crawfish Center

AUTHORIZED PURINA DEALER



**"Long Necks"
Even Crawfish Like 'em**

337-363-3099

4394 Opelousas Road • Ville Platte, LA 70586
Quality Crawfish Traps Crawfish Bait
Crawfish Sacks and Supplies
We Deliver

'King Dollar' a threat to exports, world economy

While it doesn't attract the attention of a 3,000 point drop in the Dow, or a plunge in the crude oil prices to their lowest level since before Operation Iraq Freedom, currency shifts - particularly the strength of the U.S. dollar - have been a key development in the current financial crisis. And it's one that could have an extended impact on U.S. commodities and ag exports. Events of the last week include:

- The dollar index, which is weighted against a basket of currencies with the euro making up more than half, has rocketed higher by nearly 9% since making a one and a half year low just on March 9. That is a phenomenal move for the index in a short period of time. As of Thursday evening, it was making a three-year high, with the potential to rise to its highest level in 17 years.

- The move in the dollar versus the Brazilian real has been even more phenomenal. Since the start of the year, the dollar has gained 31% versus the real, with gains accelerating the past two weeks (see chart). This is an all-time low for the real versus the dollar.

- The Russian ruble fell into a four-year low versus the dollar today

The dollar surged versus just about every other currency as well. The real has plunged just as a huge South American soybean crop was taking shape and entering the global export market. The U.S. was already uncompetitive with Brazil prior to the real's drop. Some possible port distributions


due to coronavirus could become a speed bump, but otherwise Brazil will have a dominant upper hand in winning business from China. Meanwhile, the plummeting ruble is feeding expectations of increased export demand for Russian wheat - to the point that Russian officials have to consider enacting export restrictions to protect domestic supplies, a step they have taken in the past.

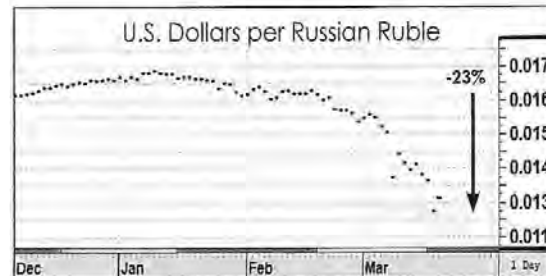
More than ever, the dollar remains a "safe haven," which is what investors have been desperately fleeing to amid concern about a global economic shutdown. That demand from investors are making them scarce for businesses that need them. Analyst say that the companies that have outstanding U.S. dollar debt are hoarding the currency, rather than risk not being able to get it when needed. Dollars are also seen as insurance for some companies against what could be a severe impact from coronavirus and recession.

Emerging markets typically suffer when the dollar soars. Lending to emergency markets can weaken in these conditions, and outflows from emerging markets are already at record levels according to Bloomberg, reaching \$30 billion in 45 days. Many countries around the world have been lowering interest rates in response to the crisis, which adds to the pressure on their currencies.

The concerning thing, from the perspective of U.S. ag exporters, is that the Fed tried this week to boost the flow of dollars around the world, and so far the impact has been limited. The Fed on Sunday

reduced rates on dollar swap lines with five other central banks. Then on Thursday, the Fed said it would establish a temporary program to lend billions of dollars at near-zero interest rates to central banks in nine countries.

U.S. ag markets typically don't correlate with the dollar on a day-to-day basis, but longer-term trends do have an impact. While this year's planting and growing season will have a big impact, as long as the dollar remains near multi-year highs, there will be a lid on grain and soybean prices. 



MARKET WITH CONFIDENCE

Market Analysis

Marketing Consulting

Professional Brokerage

MARKET WITH BROCK

- The Brock Report** ▶ Weekly market perspective
- Daily Market Comments** ▶ Daily market information
- Advice Alerts** ▶ Actionable strategy recommendations
- Market Edge** ▶ USDA Report analysis
- Commodity Brokers** ▶ Execution expertise
- Marketing Consultants** ▶ Customized cash & hedge strategies



BROCK ASSOCIATES

800.558.3431 • www.BrockReport.com

"There is risk of losses as well as profits when trading futures and options. This brief statement does not disclose all risk aspects of derivative trading therefore careful study of Brock Associates Disclosure Document as well as carrying FCM's Risk Disclosure's is strongly encouraged."



AGTIVITIES

April

- 25 CANCELLED - Louisiana Stock Horse Association** – Louisiana Stock Horse Association – Show will be held at the Pointe Coupee Multi Use Arena, New Roads, LA. For more information, email lashreporter@yahoo.com.

May

- 4 SW LA Beekeeper's Association** – Honeybees and Cannibas – Meeting will be held at the Sheriff's Training Center, 412 Bolivar Bishop Drive, DeRidder, LA. This event is a monthly meeting of local beekeepers, and topic will explore a possible relationship between honeybees and hemp. For more information, contact Keith Hawkins at KHawkins@agcenter.lsu.edu or 337-463-7006.

June

- 1 SW LA Beekeeper's Association** – Meeting will be held at the Sheriff's Training Center, 412 Bolivar Bishop Drive, DeRidder, LA. This event is a monthly meeting of local beekeepers to discuss requeening a hive. For more information, contact Keith Hawkins at KHawkins@agcenter.lsu.edu or 337-463-7006.
- 2 Prescribed Burning Workshop** – Workshop will be held at the Louisiana Ecological Forestry Center (formerly Hodges Garden), 1000 Hodges Loop, Florien, LA. Agency cooperators will be having a workshop to enable forest landowners to burn their lands safely and legally. For more information, contact Keith Hawkins at KHawkins@agcenter.lsu.edu or 337-463-7006.
- 18 LSU AgCenter Expo Field Day** – Field Day will be held at the Dean Lee Research Extension Center, 8105 Tom Bowman Drive, Alexandria, LA. Research on field crops, beef cattle and horticulture will be featured as well as an Industry EXPO highlighting various aspects of agriculture. For more information, contact Tara Smith at TSmith@agcenter.lsu.edu or 318-473-6520.

If you have any important dates that you would like to have listed in this section, e-mail us at anne@lafarmranch.com

Le Grand Hall

Whether your gathering is large or small,



Le Grand Hall in downtown Crowley



is the perfect choice for an intimate setting.



337.458.2375 | legrandhall@yahoo.com
505 North Parkerson Ave. | Downtown Crowley

Business Directory

Support these businesses that support our agriculture!

A+B Medical Supply of Crowley, LLC



- Oxygen Concentrators • CPAPs/Bipaps
- Nebulizer • Hospital Beds • Bedside Commodes
- Wheelchairs

Hrs.: Mon.-Fri. 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m.
ABMedicalSupply@gmail.com

123 N. Parkerson Ave. • Crowley, LA 70526
Bus. 337-788-1300 • FAX 337-788-1308



Bob's tree PRESERVATION

conservation • treecare • organics

CHURCH POINT, LA • SCOTT, LA • 888-620-TREE (8733) • BOBSTREE.COM

HUNCO Real Estate

Residential and Commercial Brokerage

Ross Cullen Agent

500 St. Julien Ave., Lafayette, LA
Office: (337) 889-5711 Cell: (337) 384-5150
Email: ross@hun-co.com

LICENSED IN LOUISIANA



Mello Joy Coffee Company
313 N. Chestnut St. Suite C • Lafayette, LA 70501

1-86MELLO JOY

Acadia Animal Clinic, Inc

JEFFERY P. ARTALL, DVM

CHRISTOPHER SEVINGNY, DVM

(337) 783-7642 (337) 581-3043

BOARDING & GROOMING SERVICES

OFFICE HOURS

Mon/Thurs/Fri 8am-5pm
Tues/Wed 8am-7pm



7433 South LA 13
Crowley, LA 70526

www.acadiaanimalclinic.vetstreet.com



CAJUN TALES SEAFOOD RESTAURANT

WELSH, LA

Fri. Sat. ~ Seafood Buffet ~ 5-9p.m.,
Sun. Lunch Buffet 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Daily Lunch Specials

LAKE ARTHUR BUTANE & PROPANE CO.

Established 1945

Two Locations to Serve You Better

801 N. Hwy. 26 Lake Arthur, LA 800-738-2280
2329 E. McNeese St. Lake Charles, LA 800-256-1287

www.lakearthurbutane.com

"We Fill All Your Propane Needs"

457-8434



www.mccrawfish.com

ACADIA Scrap & Salvage, Inc.

206 Standard Mill Rd. • Crowley
1-337-783-4621

CARMICHAEL'S PHARMACY & MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

1002 North Parkerson Avenue
Crowley, LA 70526 | 800-570-7263
1725 W. Sale Road
Lake Charles, LA 70506 | 877-474-7001

1472 S. College Road
Lafayette, LA 70503 | 800-981-9553
4809 Ambassador Caffery, #220
Lafayette, LA 70508 | 337-412-6205
carmichaelsmed.com

MEMBER OF BETTER BUSINESS BUREAU OF ACADIANA



You have the right to choose the shop of your choice! Call us for your FREE Estimate today.

788-2321 SHOP
337-581-3064 AFTER 5

John Trahan - Owner

1108 EAST FIRST ST.
CROWLEY, LA 70529

SOUTHWIND HEALTHCARE & REHABILITATION

A Non-Profit Organization

(337) 783-2740

804 Crowley-Rayne Highway • Crowley, LA
www.southwindhealthcare.org

Affordable Foundation Repair



Residential & Commercial
House Leveling • Lifting • Foundation Vents •
Pier & Slab Repairs • Root Moisture Barrier
Free Estimates
337-898-1365

ENCORE HEALTHCARE & REHABILITATION

A Non-Profit Organization
www.encorehealthcareandrehab.org

337-783-5533

19110 Crowley-Eunice Hwy. • Crowley, LA



RICE PALACE

VISIT our family style restaurant, full service truck stop travel plaza
and our Las Vegas style Video Poker Casino* • Open 24 hours!

I-10 Exit 80 • 2015 North Cherokee
Crowley, LA 70527 • (337) 783-3001
www.ricepalace.com

* Must be 21 to enter

NATIONAL PROBLEM GAMBLING HELPLINE NETWORK 1-800-522-4700

Bergeron's DIESEL FUEL INJECTION SERVICE, INC.

Diesel Truck Repairs

FORD 6.9L, 7.3L, 6.0L • CHEVY - GMC 6.2L, 6.5L, 6.6L,
DODGE 5.9L, 6.7L

496 Aymond St., Hwy 13 South • Eunice, LA 70535
Ph. 337-546-6630

GUIDRY INSURANCE AGENCY, INC.

Insurance of All Kinds

Chester P. Guidry II

[off.] - 337.783.1667
[res.] - 337.783.8155
[fax] - 337.788.1038
guidryins@cox-internet.com



612 N. Parkerson Ave.
Crowley, LA 70826



CROWLEY 337-783-0754 • EUNICE 337-457-8319 • JENNINGS 337-824-9853

CLASSIFIEDS

To Place Your Advertisement Call 337-788.5151 or Email Anne@lafarmranch.com

WANTED:

Land for hunting to lease.
Deer, Duck (Blind), Turkey or any combination.
Small or large acreage welcome.
Reward for individual leading me to a successful hunting lease.
Very responsible and hunting insurance will be provided.
Contact:
Marc Grabert
225-936-9078
or marc.grabert@basf.com
basf.com

IT DOES WORK PAT. PENDING

8' to 12'



ARMADILLO
THE G

AIRE - ADOR / RENOVATOR

RENTALS • SALES

PASTURES • HAY FIELDS • DEER PLOTS

GENE C. CHOPLIN
C: 337.581.1262

MEMBER LCA

JONATHAN STANFORD

LAND IMPROVEMENT, L.L.C.

- POND • LASER LEVELING • BUSH HOGGING • CLEARING •
- HOUSE PADS • ALL YOUR DIRT WORK NEEDS •
- TRACTOR • DOZER • BACKHOE • EXCAVATOR •

337-945-3425
CHURCH POINT, LA

LAND WANTED

Kirt J. Guidry
Real Estate

1-800-375-9518

"Specializing in land sales."
GuidryRealEstate.com
We Buy or Consult!

Keep yourself informed with a subscription to



"Louisiana Grown and Operated"

For only \$24 per year!

P.O. Box 475 • Crowley, LA 70527-0475 • E-mail: anne@lafarmranch.com
Office: 337-788-5151





2014 John Deere S335R 2056 Hrs.
IVT Trans. / H.S. ~~\$160,000.00~~ \$165,000.00



SOLD

2014 Bigham 12 Row Flipper
\$15,500.00



SOLD

2015 John Deere G150 R 2200 Hrs.
IVT Trans. Loaded \$90,000.00



2015 John Deere 680S with Tracks & Tires 1300 Eng. Hrs / 900 Sep. Hrs.
~~\$200,000.00~~ \$188,000.00

FARM EQUIPMENT

Schexnyder Partnership
Dale Schexnyder 318 729-7918
Steve Schexnyder 318 729-0874
Lecompte, LA. 71346



2014 J-M Grain Cart 1000-200
with Scales ~~\$50,000.00~~ \$27,000.00



SOLD

2007 Genie Forklift GTH-63F
\$25,000.00



SOLD

2014 Case 570D 30'
\$30,000.00

Duhon's Land Leveling, LLC

MAURICE, LA



- Precision Land Leveling • Ponds • House Pads
- Agriculture, Commercial and Residential
- Survey and Design using the latest G.P.S. Technology from Trimble.
- Installation of Underground Irrigation
- Optisurface leveling to Minimize dirt being moved.

Call Ryan Duhon
337-371-9397



GAMBIT[®]

HERBICIDE

Control in Spades

In the house of cards that is modern agriculture, you can't always rely on the hand you're dealt. It pays to stack the deck with Gambit Herbicide.

Gambit features a broadleaf weed spectrum* controlling **50+** additional weeds when compared with the Permit[®] label.

GAMBIT provides optimal broadleaf control, eliminates black seeded weeds, & helps maximize yield potential.

- **PRE-PLANT BURNDOWN:** texasweed, alligatorweed, morningglories¹, small seeded broadleaves & hemp sesbania
- **PRE:** morningglories¹ & hemp sesbania¹
- **POST:** alligatorweed, texasweed, hemp sesbania, jointvetch, morningglories¹, smartweeds, & cutleaf groundcherry



The Gambit Logo is a registered trademark of Gowan Company, L.L.C.
Permit[®] is a registered trademark of Nissan Chemical Industries LTD.
¹ Suppression only.
Always read and follow label instructions.

Gowan[®]
USA
800.883.1844 • GOWANCO.COM