

## **CONFLICTZONE**

**DODGE COUNTY CONCERNED CITIZENS**

**NEWS & INFO UPDATE - FEBRUARY 2022**

**SAVE THE EARTH...STOP FACTORY FARMS**

***TURNING OUR MISSION INTO A MOVEMENT***

**Taking a Mess and Making it Our Message**

**ALL YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT  
EVERYTHING THAT MATTERS**

**Dodge County Concerned Citizens E/I/E Newsletter**

**[Educational, Informational & Entertaining]**



## **BEST OF THE MONTH**

**Precinct Caucus Ready-To-Use Resolutions  
for Tuesday, February 1, 2022 | Land  
Stewardship Project**

**<https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ui=2&ik=76e6a923b2&attid=0.1&permmsgid=msg->**

[f:1723116670702698469&th=17e9bd7b87c9bfe5&view=att&disp=safe](https://www.landstewardshipaction.org/f:1723116670702698469&th=17e9bd7b87c9bfe5&view=att&disp=safe)

## **Caucus for Land Stewardship**

The 2022 Precinct Caucuses, the first step in Minnesota's process for selecting our parties' candidates, leadership, platforms, and values, are just around the corner and we need you and others in your community to participate. For all major political parties, caucuses will be held on Tuesday, February 1, 2022 and it's critical that we have your voice present in this process to ensure our political parties and candidates are working on behalf of people and the land, not corporate interests. This year, given the uncertainty of COVID, caucuses for many will look different and could cause confusion. That is why we need to make sure everyone knows how to participate based on where they live and party affiliation and why participation is so important. Below we have a timeline and general overview for the upcoming caucus process. For questions, you can reach out to LSP/LSAF's political organizer, Emily Minge, at [eminge@landstewardshipaction.org](mailto:eminge@landstewardshipaction.org) or 612-400-6353.

## ***When a Factory Farm Comes to Town: Protecting Your Township from Unwanted Development ~ A guide for Minnesota townships on using an interim ordinance to promote responsible development.***

Produced by LSP's Policy and Organizing Program, this booklet provides guidance to townships on using the Minnesota Interim Ordinance and other tools in the state's Municipal Planning law. It also contains an extensive list of resources. This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of this publication; it was originally written in 1997 and updated again in 2006. The 2018 version includes significant updates, including information on frac sand mining operations. 65 pages. | Land Stewardship

**Project** [https://landstewardshipproject.org/repository/1/2682/when a factory farm comes to town final 9 15 18.pdf](https://landstewardshipproject.org/repository/1/2682/when_a_factory_farm_comes_to_town_final_9_15_18.pdf)

**The Money Pit: How Minnesota Property Taxpayers are Subsidizing Factory Farms ~ This is an LSP report on how a little-known law exempting manure storage facilities from property taxes unfairly benefits large-scale livestock operations. | Land Stewardship**

**Project** <https://lsp.dev.rm34.us/repository/1/39/moneypitreport.pdf>

**Video: Aerial Detectives Dive Deep Into North Carolina's Hog and Poultry Waste Problem - Pulitzer Prize-winning, nonpartisan reporting on the biggest crisis facing our planet. | Inside Climate News**

**[Video: Aerial Detectives Dive Deep Into North Carolina's Hog and Poultry Waste Problem - Inside Climate News](#) **Video 5:44****

**SRAP Live 2021: Building a Socially Responsible Food Future | Socially Responsible Agriculture Project** [https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLQ1v-GDXiO6jmlI0RNj7MkrbsE\\_EJknFZ](https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLQ1v-GDXiO6jmlI0RNj7MkrbsE_EJknFZ)

**SRAP Live features farmers, activists, and academics discussing environmental justice, the greenwashing of factory farm gas, community success stories, the injustices faced by contract growers, and more.**

**Sonja Trom Eayrs of Dodge County Concerned Citizens recently participated in a national panel discussion regarding the harassment and intimidation tactics used by industrial agriculture to force factory farms into rural areas. Please take a few minutes to hear from Sonja and other frontline families.**

**SRAP protects communities from factory farms. We empower people to mobilize and advocate for a socially responsible food future. | Socially Responsible Agriculture Project** <https://sraproject.org/>

**The Systemic Approach to Agricultural Transformation | Stray Dog Institute** <https://straydoginstitute.org/the-systemic-approach-to-agricultural-transformation/>

**King of Stink - For Minnesota man, noxious odor was the mother of invention. | The New York Times** <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/01/13/climate/nasal-ranger-chuck-mcginley.html>

***The Simple Life of Noah Dearborn*** - In the tiny community of Twin Pines, GA, lives Noah Dearborn, a master craftsman and farmer who cherishes his solitude almost as much as the local townspeople cherish him, especially his restaurateur Sarah McClellan. When real estate developers set their sights on Noah's land, he rejects their six figure offer. | Amazon.com <https://www.amazon.com/Simple-Life-Dearborn-Sidney-Poitier/dp/B0006Z2LLK>

**A Way of Life in Danger - Organic farmers face unprecedented challenges.** | The Progressive Magazine <https://progressive.org/magazine/a-way-of-life-in-danger-eisen/>

**How to start a backyard poultry flock** | University of Minnesota Extension <https://extension.umn.edu/event/how-start-backyard-poultry-flock>

**Ranchers get help against wolf attacks - The state is offering a \$60,000 pot for livestock protection measures.** | Star Tribune <https://www.startribune.com/minnesota-ranchers-in-wolf-range-to-get-help-to-protect-livestock/600131726/>

**Upcycled nutrients could become possible feed alternative** | AgWeek [https://www.agweek.com/business/agriculture/7329414-Upcycled-nutrients-could-become-possible-feed-alternative?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=newsletter&utm\\_campaign=sugarbeetcurated](https://www.agweek.com/business/agriculture/7329414-Upcycled-nutrients-could-become-possible-feed-alternative?utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter&utm_campaign=sugarbeetcurated)

**Ag Insider: Prop 12 is here, even if final rules aren't** | Food & Environment Reporting Network <https://mailchi.mp/thefern.org/ag-insider-prop-12-is-here-even-if-final-rules-arent?e=7568fe7c73>

**Artificial Intelligence on the Farm** | Modern Farmer  
Low-cost [AI sensors could help farmers reduce fertilizer use](#), signal water needs, and point to insect infestations.

**New Report: WE ARE NOT DISPOSABLE: Food Workers Organizing on the COVID Frontlines** | Food Chain Workers Alliance [https://foodchainworkers.org/2021/02/new-report-we-are-not-disposable-food-workers-organizing-on-the-covid-frontlines/?link\\_id=2&can\\_id=90b2217dab465cf8609d4f625deb3a1e&source=em](https://foodchainworkers.org/2021/02/new-report-we-are-not-disposable-food-workers-organizing-on-the-covid-frontlines/?link_id=2&can_id=90b2217dab465cf8609d4f625deb3a1e&source=em)

[ail-food-workers-rising-a-2021-timeline&email\\_referrer=email\\_1397218&email\\_subject=food-workers-rising-a-2021-timeline](#)

Independent cattle ranchers continue fight against national checkoff program | The Counter <https://thecounter.org/independent-cattle-ranchers-fight-national-checkoff-program/>

Founded in 1877 as the country's first national humane organization, *American Humane* is committed to ensuring the safety, welfare and well-being of animals. | American Humane <https://www.americanhumane.org/>

Secondhand Hounds | <https://www.secondhandhounds.org/>

U.S. will vigorously enforce fair-play laws in meatpacking, says Biden | Successful Farming <https://www.agriculture.com/news/business/us-will-vigorously-enforce-fair-play-laws-in-meatpacking-says-biden>

Dodge County Wind Project | NextEra Energy Resources <https://www.nexteraenergyresources.com/dodge-county-wind.html>

Rural areas continue to lose grocery stores | STLPR <https://news.stlpublicradio.org/economy-business/2022-01-04/rural-areas-continue-to-lose-grocery-stores-gain-dollar-stores>

John Deere Introduces Full Autonomy Solution for Tractors | AgWeb AM [https://www.agweb.com/news/machinery/new-machinery/john-deere-aims-revolutionize-agriculture-through-autonomy?mkt\\_tok=ODQzLVlHQi03OTMAAAGByPFRJvtfZN2io7TPf1WQGNNIpgV9W2GfR7NEaWq7QgJIF2N3p2WSfK\\_K848EEG4LAZMtwvNljB5hM1AKXvqkQra6SAoNStzUuZKUKnD5WFsa1B0tmw](https://www.agweb.com/news/machinery/new-machinery/john-deere-aims-revolutionize-agriculture-through-autonomy?mkt_tok=ODQzLVlHQi03OTMAAAGByPFRJvtfZN2io7TPf1WQGNNIpgV9W2GfR7NEaWq7QgJIF2N3p2WSfK_K848EEG4LAZMtwvNljB5hM1AKXvqkQra6SAoNStzUuZKUKnD5WFsa1B0tmw)

Off-season 'cover' crops expand as U.S. growers eye low-carbon future | Reuters <https://www.reuters.com/markets/commodities/farming-climate-off-season-cover-crops-expand-us-growers-eye-low-carbon-future-2022-01-04/>

Can \$1 billion really fix a meat industry dominated by just four companies? | The Counter <https://thecounter.org/big-four-meatpackers-antitrust-consolidation/>

LSP Fighting Factory Farms Cohort | Land Stewardship Project [https://doc-0c-0k-apps-viewer.googleusercontent.com/viewer/secure/pdf/75o205alq2f782eu5u7ic81uoahybflv/h0f8593mmcm5i22i6hofq0nnonmckgof/1641852225000/gmail/05656745463573936168/ACFrOgAxYB1g7GOsS4ttvZY8AupaAGz2HMAtvDj8v8UGChFwVcsX1J7mtwX0KRsn96Q\\_FQLBKKGvS0DaPrpY5SDCJOYI4GS-kxiuozfuuJ7RlnACTIfSinVLvHPJy\\_o=?print=true&nonce=v81eh4mreah32&user=05656745463573936168&hash=c13g6i3kmqbhtflr8eo48ossh2p0mrpg](https://doc-0c-0k-apps-viewer.googleusercontent.com/viewer/secure/pdf/75o205alq2f782eu5u7ic81uoahybflv/h0f8593mmcm5i22i6hofq0nnonmckgof/1641852225000/gmail/05656745463573936168/ACFrOgAxYB1g7GOsS4ttvZY8AupaAGz2HMAtvDj8v8UGChFwVcsX1J7mtwX0KRsn96Q_FQLBKKGvS0DaPrpY5SDCJOYI4GS-kxiuozfuuJ7RlnACTIfSinVLvHPJy_o=?print=true&nonce=v81eh4mreah32&user=05656745463573936168&hash=c13g6i3kmqbhtflr8eo48ossh2p0mrpg)

Registration Form: LSP Stopping Factory Farms Cohort | Land Stewardship Project <https://forms.office.com/pages/responsepage.aspx?id=6AeNR5dNqUCJpQS3vLzAd3uF-vjEXiVLjcAdSRMmSM5UQkQ1QINRUzRKWE9FTUU4R0dXMk5GSFZZUS4u>

Wisconsin Farmers Union News | [https://0f4bc074-748c-46a4-9f19-19e840d229f2.filesusr.com/ugd/629d75\\_19fd1292dc56416584a2eb38d8654b44.pdf](https://0f4bc074-748c-46a4-9f19-19e840d229f2.filesusr.com/ugd/629d75_19fd1292dc56416584a2eb38d8654b44.pdf)

Minnesota hog producers market 'the Black Angus of pork' | AgWeek [https://www.agweek.com/business/agriculture/7339264-Minnesota-hog-producers-market-%E2%80%98the-Black-Angus-of-pork%E2%80%99?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=newsletter&utm\\_campaign=agweekdaily](https://www.agweek.com/business/agriculture/7339264-Minnesota-hog-producers-market-%E2%80%98the-Black-Angus-of-pork%E2%80%99?utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter&utm_campaign=agweekdaily)

Standing up for family farms | The Hill <https://thehill.com/business-a-lobbying/business-a-lobbying/589117-standing-up-for-family-farms>

Farm Innovator Webinar: Growing Your Farm Business with Convenience | Acres U.S.A. <https://mailchi.mp/acresusa/national-farm-innovator-series-january-2022?e=e49f04f0fe>

Ag Insider: 'You have a partner in the White House,' Biden tells farmers | Food & Environment Reporting Network <https://mailchi.mp/thefern.org/ag-insideryou-have-a-partner-in-the-white-house-biden-tells-farmers?e=7568fe7c73>

**BREAKING: New Market for U.S. Pork Opens in India** | AgWebAM <https://www.agweb.com/news/livestock/pork/breaking-new-market-us-pork-opens->

[india?mkt\\_tok=ODOzLVIHQi03OTMAAAGB59c8Uxev3Z8LuZek7hrY4dMxQCbRA8qjYcRp7b1cZrmY42q-4CaaF3hubQOrztirvVAPTUVe\\_ZLee7Qkiy3tFD0hh6KP66AxTqKGh3ioLWI5wOicL](https://www.india?mkt_tok=ODOzLVIHQi03OTMAAAGB59c8Uxev3Z8LuZek7hrY4dMxQCbRA8qjYcRp7b1cZrmY42q-4CaaF3hubQOrztirvVAPTUVe_ZLee7Qkiy3tFD0hh6KP66AxTqKGh3ioLWI5wOicL)

## **The Trouble With Farmland**

“Investment” | FoodPrint <https://foodprint.org/blog/the-trouble-with-farmland-investment/>

Procedure: Peer Review of National Organic Program (NOP)

Accreditation | USDA National Organic

Program <https://www.ams.usda.gov/sites/default/files/media/NOP%201031%20Peer%20Review%20Process%20v2.pdf>

Exploring recipes from many

lands | AgWeek [https://www.agweek.com/lifestyle/food/7342125-Exploring-recipes-from-many-](https://www.agweek.com/lifestyle/food/7342125-Exploring-recipes-from-many-lands?utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter&utm_campaign=agweekdaily)

[lands?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=newsletter&utm\\_campaign=agweekdaily](https://www.agweek.com/lifestyle/food/7342125-Exploring-recipes-from-many-lands?utm_medium=email&utm_source=newsletter&utm_campaign=agweekdaily)

Farm Girl Grown N' More Farm Fresh Eggs/Chickens/Meat ~ 507-583-0030 ~ 85772 320th St., Blooming Prairie MN

55917 | [www.farmgirlgrownmore.wixsite.com/5079](http://www.farmgirlgrownmore.wixsite.com/5079)

CHICK DAYS ARE COMING! See breed info & pictures at

[FarmandFleet.com/chickdays/](http://FarmandFleet.com/chickdays/)

**How will independent meat processors and packers benefit from Biden’s \$1 billion pledge? | Successful**

**Farming <https://www.agriculture.com/news/livestock/2021-another-roller-coaster-year-for-the-livestock-industry>**

**OCM'S MOST RECENT NEWSLETTERS**

[https://competitivemarkets.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/OCM\\_Oct-Dec\\_2021\\_Newsletter\\_web.pdf](https://competitivemarkets.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/OCM_Oct-Dec_2021_Newsletter_web.pdf)

<https://competitivemarkets.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/webOCMJuly-Oct21.pdf>

Starting 2022 off right | Emily at A Greener

World <https://myemail.constantcontact.com/Starting-2022-off-right.html?soid=1102690018297&aid=vzXkyae-pvA>

Pastured Poultry Feeding and Management | Pastured Poultry

Talk <https://pasturedpoultrytalk.com/pastured-poultry-feeding-and-management/>

How to calculate the margins of a pasture-raised broiler business | Pastured

Poultry Talk <https://pasturedpoultrytalk.com/2018/06/22/how-to-calculate-the-margins-of-a-pasture-raised-broiler-business/>

Place Your Order for Free At-Home COVID-19

Tests | USPS <https://special.usps.com/testkits>

21 Gadgets Seniors Will Love As Gifts | Curious

Finds [https://www.curiousfinds.com/seniorgift3a.php?site=YakME3JXsHPCr6fV\\_YclPAAAAAY&subid=sen3a-35&utm\\_source=35&clickid=11937686&source=CFSG&pname=conversion](https://www.curiousfinds.com/seniorgift3a.php?site=YakME3JXsHPCr6fV_YclPAAAAAY&subid=sen3a-35&utm_source=35&clickid=11937686&source=CFSG&pname=conversion)

Book of the Week Exclusive: Ask the Plant | Acres U.S.A.

Bookworm <https://mailchi.mp/acresusa/book-of-the-week-exclusive-ask-the-plant-january-2022?e=e49f04f0fe>

Most Americans had never heard of it | Inside Climate

News <https://us2.campaign-archive.com/?u=7c733794100bcc7e083a163f0&id=a71f4dbbfe&e=3377e9fa3d>

Discover Austin Minnesota - Welcome to Austin, Minnesota - To Help you

*Discover Austin, MN* Download our Visitor Guide <https://austinmn.com>

Discover Austin's pig car named 'Petunia' | KTTC-

TV <https://www.kaaltv.com/austin-minnesota-news/discover-austins-pig-car-named-petunia-/6162322>

**THE TRUFFLE HUNTERS** follows a handful of men, seventy to eighty years young, in Piedmont, Italy, on the search for the elusive Alba truffle. They're guided by a secret culture passed down through generations, as well as by the noses of their cherished and expertly trained dogs. The documentary subtly explores the devastating effects of climate change and deforestation on an age-old tradition through a visually stunning narrative that celebrates life and exalts the human spirit. | YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KFYhrc0AnVw>



**Rising Meat Prices Spurs Showdown | Star Tribune** <https://www.startribune.com/high-u-s-meat-prices-profiteering-by-packers-including-cargill-or-capacity-crunch/600138195/>

**The Trouble With Farmland "Investment" | FoodPrint** <https://foodprint.org/blog/the-trouble-with-farmland-investment/>

**How will independent meat processors and packers benefit from Biden's \$1 billion pledge? | Successful Farming** <https://www.agriculture.com/news/livestock/2021-another-roller-coaster-year-for-the-livestock-industry>

**Small ranchers say Biden letting them get squeezed | TheHill** <https://thehill.com/policy/equilibrium-sustainability/590941-small-ranchers-say-biden-letting-them-get-squeezed>

**Bird Flu Is Back in the US. No One Knows What Comes Next | WIRED** <https://www.wired.com/story/bird-flu-is-back-in-the-us-no-one-knows-what-comes-next/>

**Women in Ag Network | UMN Extension** <https://extension.umn.edu/business/women-ag-network>

**Punny Business: My dog does magic tricks...He's a Labracadabrador.**

**Byron Solar Project** | <https://mail.google.com/mail/u/0?ui=2&ik=76e6a923b2&attid=0.1&permsgid=msg-f:1722951293406661221&th=17e92712a0cdca65&view=att&disp=safe>

**Ag Insider: Judge delays enforcement of Prop 12 on California retailers | Food & Environment Reporting Network** <https://mailchi.mp/thefern.org/ag-insider-judge-delays-enforcement-of-prop-12-on-california-retailers?e=7568fe7c73>

**Brothers Osborne - Younger Me (Official Music Video)** | YouTube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wc5j50Xbvqs> **3:33**

**IOWA AG EXPO - FEBRUARY 1-3, 2022 - IOWA EVENTS CENTER, DES MOINES, IA | [IOWAAGEXPO.COM](http://IOWAAGEXPO.COM)**

**LSP Statement on Daley Farm Appeal of Winona County BOA Decision | Land Stewardship Project <https://landstewardshipproject.org/lsp-statement-on-daley-farm-appeal-of-winona-county-boa-decision/>**

**Bright futures for back-roads restaurants? | The Counter <https://mailchi.mp/newfoodeconomy/mangoes-and-peppercorns-and-peaches-contaminated-with-dust-2058940?e=455b8afa79>**

**DEADLINE APPROACHING: Apply by February 4, 2022 to USDA's Farm Service Agency for OTECP | <https://www.fsa.usda.gov/news-room/news-releases/2021/deadline-extended-to-apply-for-pandemic-support-for-certified-organic-and-transitioning-operations>**

**Homegrown News | City of Minneapolis <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/MPLS/bulletins/3025e05>**

**Radio Station - WDGY "The Original Rock N Roll Station" | <https://www.wdgyradio.com/>**

**Winter-related stuff, new egg cartons, AGW pride | Emily at A Greener World <https://myemail.constantcontact.com/Winter-related-stuff--new-egg-cartons--AGW-pride.html?soid=1102690018297&aid=bqoblqxepts>**

**The Climate Warming Impact From Gas Stoves Equals That of 500,000 Cars | Inside Climate News <https://us2.campaign-archive.com/?u=7c733794100bcc7e083a163f0&id=baa30e4bfe&e=3377e9fa3d>**

**YouTube superstar brings farming to the masses | Star Tribune <https://www.startribune.com/minnesotas-millennial-farmer-is-youtube-star/600140973/>**

**New IATP staff & PFAS developments in Maine: IATP January News | Institute for Agriculture & Trade Policy <https://mailchi.mp/iatp/january2022?e=7c2dfa7289>**

**"Better a diamond with a flaw than a pebble without." ~ Confucius**

## What Works to Save Wildlife

In Banff National Park, there are [44 wildlife crossing structures](#) (6 overpasses and 38 underpasses) that help wildlife safely cross the busy Trans-Canada Highway. These wildlife crossings have reduced collisions with large animals like bears, elk and cougars by 80%!

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### **Baby, It's Cold Outside: Keeping your Flock Comfortable in Chilly Conditions**

Winter weather is quickly approaching here in northwest Indiana, so this means it's time to prepare our coops for the season to come. While your flock may not like the cold and snowy conditions, they can easily survive in blistery temperatures – especially when you set them up for success from the get-go.



**Here are a few of Ashton's ways to winterize your coop and ensure that your flock stays comfortable this season.**

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**ocm**  
Organization for  
Competitive Markets

**OCM NEWS ROUNDUP:**

*The week's news concerning corporate consolidation and monopoly power in food and agriculture.*

*January 21, 2022*

**Mark your Calendar**

*OCM Annual Convention and Member Meeting, Kansas City MO, July 28-30, 2022*

<https://www.facebook.com/events/250058333833027/>

**House Judiciary Committee Chairman Jerrold Nadler (D-NY)**

*WASHINGTON — House Judiciary Committee Chairman Jerrold Nadler (D-NY) delivered the following opening statement, as prepared, during a Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial, and Administrative Law hearing entitled “Reviving Competition, Part 5: Addressing the Effects of Economic Concentration on Americas Food Supply:”*

<https://www.morningagclips.com/hearing-examines-the-effects-of-concentration-in-the-u-s-food-supply/>

**ABS Global joins WWF**

*ABS Global, a world-leading bovine genetics company, has joined forces with organizations such as WWF, Zoetis, and Cargill as part of a worldwide network of people and organizations powering progress in sustainable beef – the Global Roundtable for Sustainable Beef (GRSB). With over 80 years of experience in animal genetics, ABS Global partners with progressive and genetic-driven producers and supply chain stakeholders to breed better cattle for the efficient production of quality meat and milk. ABS aims to create affordable and sustainable beef and milk supporting the bovine ecosystem.*

*The Global Roundtable for Sustainable Beef brings together all supply chain partners, from farm to plate, to support and invest in the continuous improvement of cattle health and wellbeing. ABS Global joins a growing number of organizations committed to bettering the global beef*

*supply chain, as part of GRSB. In the last 12 months, 87 new members have joined GRSB, including, Chicago Mercantile Exchange (CME), a world-leading derivatives marketplace operating in agriculture and ESG, and Archers-Daniels-Midland (ADM) who develop natural ingredients to support livestock nutrition.*

[https://grsbeef.org/resources/Documents/News%20Releases/CORRECTION.1.19.22%20-%20GRSB%20-%20ABS%20new%20member%20-%20press%20release\\_FINAL.pdf](https://grsbeef.org/resources/Documents/News%20Releases/CORRECTION.1.19.22%20-%20GRSB%20-%20ABS%20new%20member%20-%20press%20release_FINAL.pdf)

### **NAMI wants us to look the other way**

*NAMI says consumers saw increased meat prices in 2021 due to labor shortages, greater consumer demand, supply chain problems, and other factors experienced by most sectors of the economy.*

<https://www.nationalhogfarmer.com/news/nami-dont-blame-meat-and-poultry-industry-inflation>

*The Biden administration and some cattle groups blame meat industry concentration for producers getting a smaller share of consumer dollars. The Meat Institute disputes.*

<https://www.drovers.com/news/industry/meat-institute-disputes-white-house-analysis-packer-concentration>

### **Efficient or Resilient**

*U.S. Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack made Wheat Ridge Poultry & Meats' hanging carcasses and colorful storefront a backdrop for a recent press conference explaining the availability of the federal funds and that helping small meat processors can moderate prices and reduce reliance on a meat supply chain susceptible to disruption.*

*"We have an efficient food system in this country, but we don't have a resilient one," Vilsack said.*

<https://www.bizjournals.com/denver/news/2022/01/20/wheat-ridge-poultry-meats-supply-chain-investments.html>

## **"Middle" wields immense market power**

*"A small handful of dominant firms control the market for most farm inputs... processing, food manufacturing, wholesale distribution, food service, and retail grocery," described Larew.*

*"These very large firms in the middle of the supply chain wield immense market power... As companies have gotten larger and competition has declined, anticompetitive conduct by dominant firms has received insufficient scrutiny."*

<https://nfu.org/2022/01/19/house-judiciary-committee-addresses-effects-of-concentration-on-u-s-food-supply/>

## **Is the American Cowboy dead?**

*"The short answer is that, if things continue the way they've been going, the American cowboy will be dead, and that's the sad truth of it," Kerns said.*

[https://www.thesheridanpress.com/news/local/no-one-answer-to-big-four-dominance-of-meatpacking-locals-say/article\\_ea64776e-77ab-11ec-9b6e-f32896da0647.html](https://www.thesheridanpress.com/news/local/no-one-answer-to-big-four-dominance-of-meatpacking-locals-say/article_ea64776e-77ab-11ec-9b6e-f32896da0647.html)

## **Federal Merger Review Guidelines**

*R-CALF USA applauded today's joint announcement by Jonathan Kanter, U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) Assistant Attorney General for the Antitrust Division, and Lina Khan, Chair of the Federal Trade Commission (FTC), that they are updating federal merger review guidelines. The following is a statement by R-CALF USA CEO Bill Bullard regarding that announcement:*

<https://www.r-calfusa.com/ranch-group-applauds-joint-ftc-and-doj-plan-to-update-federal-merger-guidelines/>

## **We are going Virtual**

*PFU ANNUAL MEETING Wednesday, February 9, 2022 9 AM - NOON on ZOOM REGISTER AT <https://tinyurl.com/28njevhb>. With the surge of the Omicron variant, the PFU Board decided on this change to prioritize the health and safety of all our attendees. This was also based on feedback from some participants' comfort with traveling and being in crowds. Once you've*

registered you will receive a link for the event and a calendar reminder. You can also participate by phone, but voting will only take place by zoom video. The deadline to register for the annual meeting is Monday, February 7. And just a reminder that only members in good standing can vote during the policy deliberation and elections. Join or renew your membership here:

<https://forms.gle/ae3aPUZyn432tb2E8>.

## **1 Billion is First Step**

*President Joe Biden, in a recent discussion with representatives from farmer groups, announced that he was allocating \$1 billion to help the nation's beef and poultry industries become more competitive.*

*As he put it, "capitalism without competition isn't capitalism, it's exploitation."*

*But while this investment is a good first step, more needs to be done: There must be a sincere attempt to improve the rules of the game to ensure fair competition.*

[https://www.yakimaherald.com/opinion/commentary-farmers-need-more-federal-help/article\\_50f81de5-8e45-57a4-a2ea-d2e67c30ea1a.html](https://www.yakimaherald.com/opinion/commentary-farmers-need-more-federal-help/article_50f81de5-8e45-57a4-a2ea-d2e67c30ea1a.html)

## **Could cheap food do more harm than good?**

*Though President Joe Biden started off the year with a speech vowing to relieve the pressure on food budgets, we can't expect a return to pre-pandemic food prices anytime soon — or possibly ever. In fact, going back to an era of cheap food could do more harm than good.*

<https://www.bloomberg.com/opinion/articles/2022-01-16/soaring-food-prices-can-pay-for-a-more-secure-future>

## **1970s after changes in antitrust policy**

*Companies say that's the whole story. But there's evidence that monopolistic market structures are making things worse. Food production has consolidated dramatically since the 1970s after changes in antitrust policy allowed more companies to buy up their competitors. Depending on who you ask, antitrust practitioners say markets are "oligopolistic" or dangerously concentrated*

*when the top four firms control 40% to 50% of the market or more. Higher levels of concentration give businesses more power to set prices and increase the likelihood of price-fixing or market manipulation. Today, the top four corporations control more than 60% of the U.S. market for pork, coffee, cookies, beer, and bread. In beef processing, baby food, pasta, and soda the top four companies control more than 80% of the U.S. market.*

<https://time.com/6139127/u-s-food-prices-monopoly/>

## **mCOOL**

*Have you joined the movement to know what your family is eating?*

[labelourbeef.com](http://labelourbeef.com)

## **OCM, Organization for Competitive Markets**

[competitivemarkets.com](http://competitivemarkets.com)

*8-21-21 (2021-2022 board)*

*Vaughn Meyer, SD President*

*Dr. Taylor Haynes, WY Vice President*

## **PLEASE CONSIDER OCM MEMBERSHIP**

Organization for Competitive Markets (OCM) is a national leader working to bring about economic justice for family farmers, ranchers, and rural communities by fighting to break the abusive corporate power that extracts the wealth out of their pockets. OCM provides a platform for individuals and organizations to join their voices in demanding fairness and justice within the marketplace. Working together we can ensure everyone receives their fair share of America's



prosperity that they build. By becoming a member you will have access to the information and tools you need to join the fight.

**Select a membership option:** <https://competitivemarkets.com/membership/>

**Donation:** <https://competitivemarkets.com/donate/>

## OCM'S MOST RECENT NEWSLETTERS

[https://competitivemarkets.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/OCM\\_Oct-Dec\\_2021\\_Newsletter\\_web.pdf](https://competitivemarkets.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/OCM_Oct-Dec_2021_Newsletter_web.pdf)

<https://competitivemarkets.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/webOCMJuly-Oct21.pdf>

Organization for Competitive Markets | P.O. Box 6486, Lincoln NE

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AgWeek

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**Minnesota farmer buried in John Deere casket with tractor-led funeral procession**

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**Charles "Bud" Sedlachek was born in Jasper, Minnesota, in 1938, died of congestive heart failure in Brainerd at 83 on Jan. 3. The Crow Wing County farmer loved John Deere equipment, so a John Deere tractor led the funeral procession and he was buried in a custom-ordered John Deere casket.**

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**The patient, David Bennett Sr, is a 57-year old handyman who was convicted in 1988 of [stabbing a man seven times, leaving him paralyzed](#). Edward Shumaker, the stabbing victim, spent the next 19 years in a wheelchair before he had a stroke in 2005 and died two years later — one week before his 41st birthday.**

**\*\*\*\*\***

# FARM ACTION NEWS ROUNDUP



Farm Action



Farm Action Fund

## FARM ACTION FOCUS: AN “INFLUENTIAL FORCE” FOR A MORE COMPETITIVE FOOD SYSTEM

Our new organization name, Farm Action, just had its public debut! On Tuesday, [The Hill published a profile](#) that traces the origins of our mission to transform the food and farm system, and spotlights our plan to shift power into the hands of farmers, ranchers, workers, and rural communities.

This story had perfect timing, as we officially changed our name at the start of the year. Going forward, most of our public-facing work will be conducted as “Farm Action.” We also changed the name of our political partner organization from “Family Farm Action” to “Farm Action Fund” to better express its role in our mission. Check out [our revamped website here](#) for breaking news and current campaigns.

We are pleased and honored to be featured so prominently, and are excited about what we can accomplish for independent farmers, ranchers, and workers with a higher public profile.

**HILL PROFILE**

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## FARM ACTION'S UPCOMING TESTIMONY TO CONGRESS: REIN IN BIG AG!

Farm Action has been invited to testify before the U.S. House Judiciary Subcommittee on Antitrust, Commercial and Administrative Law at next week’s hearing on the state of food system concentration.

Farm Action has long advocated for a hearing with this committee, which presents an opportunity to share the real-world impacts of corporate consolidation on farmers and rural communities. For everyday people, the unbridled corporate mega-mergers and acquisitions just mean there will be more farmers trapped in unfair financial schemes and more rural communities hollowed out of wealth and opportunity. In his testimony, Farm Action’s Joe Maxwell will focus on recent developments in the highly consolidated fertilizer industry, as well as the abusive dynamics found in beef markets, where

consolidation results in low income for the producer, high prices for the consumer, and excessive profits for the big meatpacker.

This hearing could yield real, substantial change to our brittle and dangerous status quo: the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Antitrust has the power to review our antitrust laws, and more authority than even the House Agriculture committee to rein in Big Ag. By encouraging this Subcommittee on Antitrust to curb and prevent monopolistic tendencies, we aim to shift power away from consolidated corporations and create opportunity for all.

The hearing is slated for 10:00 am ET on Tuesday, January 19th. Stay tuned to our [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#) for updates on this issue, and click below to check out the Subcommittee's media page, where the hearing may be live-streamed.

[WATCH THE HEARING](#)

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## **ACTION PLAN FOR GREATER COMPETITION IN MEAT AND POULTRY**

Following [the announcement of a one billion dollar investment into America's independent meat processing capacity](#), the White House identified four stages of their plan to reform our highly-concentrated meat and poultry industries into something more fair and competitive.

The first stage, funding, is outlined in the [Action Plan for a Fairer, More Competitive, and More Resilient Meat and Poultry Supply Chain](#).

The Action Plan honors recommendations made by Farm Action staff and supporters. Already, the USDA has released \$32 million that has gone to 167 different meat and poultry processors.

[The USDA is still determining](#) how the balance of the funds can be spent to most effectively combat concentration in the sector — with the understanding that all of the investment will build out our local and regional food systems, and none of it will enable the monopoly meatpacker or the monopoly retailer to process their own meat.

The remaining stages of the plan to improve competition in the meat and poultry sectors are New Rules (Packers and Stockyards Act and Product of U.S.A. Labeling), Increased Antitrust Enforcement, and Livestock and Poultry Market Transparency. While we think the first stage, funding, is an encouraging and important first step, we will continue to urge the Administration to complete the remaining steps quickly in order to break the stranglehold of corporate control.

[LEARN MORE](#)

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## **IN PARTNERSHIP: FAIRNESS IN LENDING FOR BLACK FARMERS**

Farm Action joined a group of farmers, food justice organizations, conservation groups, community-based organizations, and mission-driven lenders in sending a letter to the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau (CFPB) to express support for its recent proposal to gather data and demographics on farm lending activity by financial institutions.

The challenges Black farmers face in gaining equal access to credit from public and private lenders spans over a century. This proposal marks a significant step forward in systematically ensuring that lenders are held accountable for unequal treatment of Black farmers.

[\*\*READ THE LETTER\*\*](#)

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## **BE A LOCAL LEADER**

We are replacing our membership program with a new way to take charge in the movement for a fair, inclusive, and competitive food and farm system.

Farm Action Local Leaders will be a cross-country network that meets bi-monthly and deploys targeted campaigns at the local, state, and national levels. Without the barrier of a membership fee, more people can engage, becoming trained messengers and sharing strategic Farm Action materials with their neighbors, representatives, and members of the media.

Our network of Local Leaders will reach and activate farmers, ranchers, rural community members, and eaters, leading to a groundswell of support for the kind of policy changes the U.S. so desperately needs.

It don't cost you a dime, just a little of your time. Become a Local Leader today!

[\*\*LEAD THE MOVEMENT\*\*](#)

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## **WELCOME, SARAH!**

In December, the Farm Action team welcomed Sarah Carden aboard as our new Policy Advocate.

A farmer in upstate New York, Sarah has been working on food system reforms for over a decade.

She will be raising awareness and advocating for policies that meaningfully reform the nation's food and agriculture system.

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## **FARM ACTION MOVEMENT NEWS**

**Karl Evers-Hillstrom, *The Hill***  
**[Standing up for Family Farms](#)**

This profile focuses on Farm Action's substantial influence on "the Biden administration's push to increase competition in the highly consolidated meatpacking industry."

**Jeff Stein and Laura Reiley, *Washington Post***  
**[In Latest Effort to Combat Rising Prices, White House to Offer \\$1 Billion in Aid for Smaller Meat-Industry Producers](#)**

As Big Meat gouges producers and consumers, Farm Action's Joe Maxwell says investing in processing capacity is a significant first step toward more competition.

**Jessica Fu, *The Counter***  
**[Can \\$1 Billion Really Fix a Meat Industry Dominated by Just Four Companies?](#)**

Though the Biden Administration's [Action Plan for a Fairer, More Competitive, and More Resilient Meat and Poultry Supply Chain](#) must be accompanied by other actions to break up corporate control, Farm Action praised the substantial investment in our highly-concentrated meat and poultry industries.

**Patrick Thomas and Kirk Maltais, *The Wall Street Journal***  
**[Surging Fertilizer Costs Push Farmers to Shift Planting Plans, Raise Prices](#)**

Doubling fertilizer prices are wreaking havoc on farmers and may be a sign of market manipulation. Farm Action has asked the Department of Justice (DOJ) to investigate.

**Connor Hyde, *Argus Media***  
**[Grassley Asks Garland to Probe U.S. Fertilizer Market](#)**

A week after Farm Action petitioned the DOJ to launch an antitrust investigation into higher fertilizer prices, Senator Chuck Grassley (R-Iowa) echoed the sentiment, sending a letter of his own to Attorney General Merrick Garland, requesting an antitrust investigation.

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## ABOUT US

[Farm Action](#) leverages research, policy development, and advocacy to fight monopolies and achieve a democratized agrifood system. Our political partner organization, [Farm Action Fund](#), is building the political muscle to take action in our state and federal capitols and at the ballot box.



**Farm Action**



**Farm Action Fund**

**RESEARCH AND POLICY DEVELOPMENT**

**LEGISLATION AND ELECTIONS**

Together, our two organizations represent a seamless chain of action from research and policy development, to the adoption of the policy through legislative action by elected officials who support our vision.

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If you were forwarded this newsletter you can [subscribe here](#).



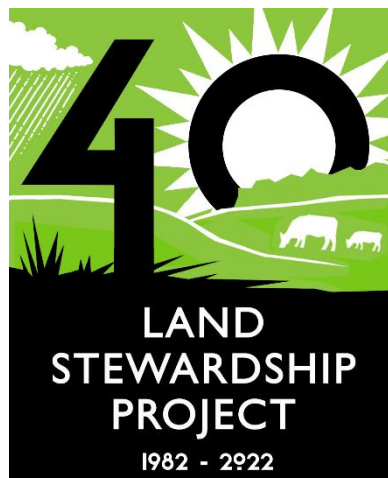
Family Farm Action Alliance  
[5 Terrace Circle](#)  
[Mexico, MO 65265](#)  
[United States](#)

## Meet LSP's New ED

Mike McMahon has been named the Land Stewardship Project's new executive director, the organization's board of directors announced last week. When McMahon takes over the helm at LSP this week he will also lead the organization's 501(c)4 advocacy action arm, the Land Stewardship Action Fund.

Since May 2021, Julie Emery has served as LSP's interim executive director. During the next several weeks, she will be assisting in passing on leadership responsibilities to McMahon. [Read more here](#).

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## LSP Turns 40

This year marks the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of LSP's founding. To mark the occasion, staffer Josh Journey Heinz has created a special 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary logo (pictured). We are in the midst of planning a series of events to mark our history and the role our members and allies have played in doing this important work. Watch our online [events calendar](#) and [news release](#) page for details.

[Read LSP's Long Range Plan](#)

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## CSA Listing Deadline Jan. 20

If you are a Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) farmer operating in Minnesota or western Wisconsin, LSP invites you to be listed in the 2022 edition of our *Twin Cities, Minnesota & Western Wisconsin Region CSA Farm Directory*. An online version of the CSA Farm Directory will be [available here](#) by Feb. 1.

To sign-up for the Directory, [click here](#).

## Caucuses are Feb. 1

On Feb. 1, thousands of Minnesotans will go to their precinct caucuses to pick candidates, elect party leaders, and build their party's platform. Join LSP staff and other members from around the state for a virtual training on Jan. 19 on the caucus process.

[Sign up for the Jan. 19 training here.](#)

And on Jan. 18 and Jan. 20, you can join our partner, the 100% Campaign, to find out how you can help make climate solutions an issue at whatever caucus you choose. Sign up for the [Jan. 18 training here](#) and the [Jan. 20 training here](#).

By the way, check out [LSP's caucus web page](#) for updates on how to participate and the latest LSP-related resolutions.

Are you interested in learning more about how LSP and our members are harnessing our collective political power? [Click here to get involved.](#)

## Soil Health Campaign Kickoff

The 2022 session of the Minnesota Legislature [convenes Jan. 31](#), and with that comes the opportunity to advocate for a more just and sustainable farm and food system. On Jan. 25, LSP will hold a member meeting to discuss ways of getting involved in the campaign to move forward a bold vision of having soil healthy practices established on 100% of the state's farmland.

To sign-up for this [Zoom event](#), [click here](#).

## Resiliency Forums

LSP and University of Minnesota Extension have teamed up to hold a series of online resiliency forums targeted at specialty crop producers.

- [Jan. 27](#): Irrigation Systems with Andrew Ehrmann of Spring Wind Farm
- [Feb. 10](#): Incubating Beginning Farmers for Alternative Land Access with Moses Momanyi of Dusk to Dawn Farm and Dayna Burtness of Nettle Valley Farm
- [March 10](#): Whole Farm Resiliency Planning with Farmers



## Healthcare Town Hall with AG Ellison Jan. 27

On Jan. 27, join LSP's Healthcare Steering Committee for a virtual town hall with Minnesota Attorney General Keith Ellison to discuss how the people of Minnesota can take control of our healthcare system.

[To sign-up, click here.](#)

## 'How Grazing Brought a Ranch Back to Life' Feb. 1-4

Cattle producer Alejandro Carrillo will tell the story of how he has used regenerative grazing to build soil health and bring his ranch back to life during a series of LSP presentations in Minnesota the first week of February. The events will be held Feb. 1 in Willmar, Minn., Feb. 2 in St. Charles, Minn., Feb. 3, in Mazeppa, Minn., and via Zoom on Feb. 4.

[For details and to register, click here.](#)

## Cover Crop Workshop Feb. 22

LSP will hold a cover cropping workshop Feb. 22 in Faribault, Minn. A panel of local farmers will cover interseeding, diverse cover crop mixes, full season forage, grazing cover crops, and more. There will be breakout sessions and a Q & A.

[To register, click here.](#)

## 'Total Impact of Soil Health' Feb. 24 in NE Iowa

LSP will host grass-based livestock expert Allen Williams for a "Laying Out the Promise & Challenges of Soil Health" event Feb. 24 in Ridgeway in northeast Iowa.

For details on this event, as well as information on a screening of the Practical Farmers of Iowa film *Livestock on the Land* later that evening in Decorah, Iowa, [click here.](#)

## Farmland Clearinghouse

Are you a beginning farmer looking to rent or purchase farmland in the Midwest? Or are you an established farmer/landowner in the Midwest who is seeking a beginning farmer to purchase or rent your land, or to work with in a partnership situation? Then check out LSP's [Farmland Clearinghouse](#) for the latest listings and for details on getting your own information posted.

## Sustainable Ag & Forestry Scholarship

LSP members Dag Knudsen and Deirdre Flesche are offering a \$5,000 "sustainable agriculture and forestry" scholarship for college students who grew up in southeastern Minnesota and are attending school in the five-state Upper Midwest region. The application deadline is March 31.

For more information and to apply, [click here.](#)

## Soil 101 Class

Soil scientist Nic Jelinski is inviting farmers and others to participate online in his popular University of Minnesota introductory soil science course this winter.

For details and to sign-up, [click here](#).

## Support LSP with Your Membership Today

If you are an LSP member, thank you — it makes our work for stewardship, democracy, and justice on the land possible.

If you're not a member, we'd like to invite you to [join us today](#). As this *LIVE-WIRE* indicates, we are doing critical work to keep the land and people together, and we'd love to have you join us in this endeavor. Check out our [website](#) to get an idea of the range of work we do and ways you can get involved.

[Check Out LSP's Web Calendar for the Latest Events](#)

[Check Our News Release Page for the Latest LSP News](#)

[Read LSP's Latest Blogs](#)

[Read the \*Land Stewardship Letter\*](#)

### Worth Repeating

***"The more I learn, the more I want to learn."***

— dairy producer Dale Pangrac, talking on [LSP's Ear to the Ground podcast](#) about the on-farm research he is conducting with LSP on the Johnson-Su Bioreactor Composter



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Land Stewardship Project  
821 E. 35th Street #200  
Minneapolis, MN 55407  
United States

**Sent by: Brad Trom, Director & Newsletter Editor**

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# ocm

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Organization for  
Competitive Markets

**OCM NEWS ROUNDUP:**

*The week's news concerning corporate consolidation and monopoly power in food and agriculture.*

*January 28, 2022*

**Mark your Calendar**

*OCM Annual Convention and Member Meeting, Kansas City MO, July 28-30, 2022*

<https://www.facebook.com/events/250058333833027/>

**Vilsack Testifies**

*JANUARY 20, 2022 Agriculture Secretary Vilsack Testifies on Rural Economy Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack testified on the state of the rural economy before the House Agriculture Committee.*

<https://www.c-span.org/video/?517261-1/agriculture-secretary-testifies-rural-economy#>

**NAMI Blames Labor Shortages**

*Advocacy groups including the U.S. Cattlemen's Association and R-Calf, which primarily represent smaller producers, and the American Grassfed Association, representing a niche product that commands premium prices but has lost market share to lower-cost imports, have argued for years the designation should only be allowed for beef from cattle born, raised and slaughtered in the U.S.*

*Representatives of the four major beef processing companies declined to comment on the labeling controversy. Their trade association, the North American Meat Institute, said it was waiting to see the outcome of the government's review. They have repeatedly denied abusing their market power and blame labor shortages for higher meat prices.*

<https://www.facebook.com/262059093812737/posts/5133347510017180/?d=n>

**China to Thank?**

*What fueled the markets this week? Well, there was a lot of talk (both confirmed and rumors) about China purchasing more corn and soybeans.*

<https://www.agweb.com/news/crops/corn/will-long-awaited-shipments-finally-set-sail-corn-soybean-prices-explode-renewed>

### **Tyson Protecting Turf?**

*Unfortunately in today's day and age, looking at where information comes from is often more important than the actual information being reported. The perfect example of this is the recent report published in Drovers Magazine. The report is an economic study done by the University of Arkansas on the Cattle Price Discovery and Transparency Act of 2021. This is a bill that has been introduced in the Senate that will force beef packers to actually bid against each other on more cattle, something they do not want to do. So, surprise, surprise the University of Arkansas says that this bill will do nothing for cattle producers and will not have an impact on cattle pricing. The reason this is not a surprise is that Arkansas is home to the largest meatpacker in the U.S. Tyson Foods, and over the years the University has received millions upon millions of dollars in donations from the Tyson Foods Foundation.*

<https://www.lonesomelands.com/new-blog/2022/1/24/university-of-arkansas-reports-on-cattle-market-after-receiving-millions-from-tyson-foods>

### **Not good enough for China, but okay for the U.S.**

*Since then, the Canadian beef industry and the Canadian government have worked to diversify and develop new markets for this country's beef. Laycraft said with the loss of the Chinese market, Canada is still seeing good demand from key markets like the U.S., Japan, Mexico, and Vietnam.*

<https://globalnews.ca/news/8504338/canada-beef-import-ban-bse/>

### **Too much Pork?**

*China is buying less pork, not only from the United States but also from other suppliers, Jekanowski says.*

*"By China buying less pork, that both reduces our own exports directly to China, but it also means that other countries that were exporting to China are now looking for other markets to market that pork and that is also competing with U.S. exports," he says.*

*Overall, the U.S. meat trade forecast is down 459 million pounds.*

<https://www.beefmagazine.com/news/us-meat-trade-forecast-down-459-million-pounds>

### **Economic Law of Supply and Demand will not be Denied**

*It just comes back to supply and demand — and certainly the demand is there and the supply is not, so there's a chance it could go a bit further north yet."*

<https://www.abc.net.au/news/rural/2022-01-20/record-live-export-prices-five-dollars-per-kilogram/100763768>

### **Elites trust Elites**

*The World Economic Forum's Great Narrative Conference: "The good news is the elite across the world trust each other more and more... the bad news is that the majority of people trusted that elite less..."*

<https://twitter.com/conceptualjames/status/1484355983082094598?s=21>

### **Basic Economics**

*The milk supply is as controlling to the milk price as gravity is to the falling apple.*

*Price is 100% sensitive to supply.*

*The most important economic item over time is supply.*

*If the milk supply is significantly less than marketplace demand the milk price will be unreasonably high, if the milk supply is significantly more than marketplace demand the milk price will be unreasonably low and if the milk supply is balanced with marketplace demand the milk price will be reasonably profitable.*

*DAIRY FARMER: LET'S BE REASONABLE AND PROFITABLE. The management of dairy farmer co-ops, which handle 85% of U.S.-made milk, are NOT doing their job of providing you with a profitable milk price. Join and implement the co-op management policies of NDPO which will ensure that most remaining co-op dairy farmer members of all sizes will receive a profitable milk price by matching YOUR co-op milk supply with PROFITABLE marketplace demand for YOUR milk.*

<https://www.facebook.com/262059093812737/posts/5117408764944388/?d=n>

### **Bring back Merger Standards**

*Antitrust enforcers need to bring back merger standards that deem market concentration presumptively harmful past a certain point (say, the four largest firms controlling 40% of the market). Enforcers should also consider unwinding key mergers or breaking up particularly concentrated industries, such as meatpacking. Finally, both the Federal Trade Commission and the U.S. Department of Agriculture should issue stronger fair competition rules to level the playing field going forward. Not only would these actions challenge food corporations' market power but restructuring industries could help deconcentrate key chokepoints and make supply chains more resilient overall.*

<https://time.com/6139127/u-s-food-prices-monopoly/>

### **Pandemic highlighted the Disruptions**

*In the past several decades, the concentration of meat and poultry processing has limited options for farmers and ranchers to sell their products. Plant closures during the Covid-19 pandemic highlighted the disruptions that can come from the closure of even a single plant. Tackling these challenges is of critical importance to consumers, farmers and ranchers, and the food supply chain.*

<https://www.drovers.com/news/industry/forum-expanding-market-opportunities-meat-processing>

## **Tom Wing joins Bill Baker**

*Michigan dairy producer Tom Wing joins Bill Baker this week on Dairy Radio NOW's monthly Producer Spotlight; sponsored by the National Dairy Producers Organization.*

<https://nationaldairyproducersorganization.com/dairy-radio-now-producer-spotlight-august-27th-2021/>

## **Help finish our call-in week strong**

*Today, Thursday, Jan. 27, and tomorrow, Friday, Jan. 28, are the last two days of our national call-in week to urge as many Senators as possible to cosponsor S.2716 the American Beef Labeling Act of 2021 for mandatory country of origin labeling (MCOOL) for beef. Your calls will make all the difference to help finish our call-in week strong.*

<https://www.r-calfusa.com/help-the-american-beef-labeling-act-call-in-week-finish-strong/>

## **mCOOL**

*Have you joined the movement to know what your family is eating?*

[labelourbeef.com](http://labelourbeef.com)

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*8-21-21 (2021-2022 board)*

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Select a membership option: <https://competitivemarkets.com/membership/>

Donation: <https://competitivemarkets.com/donate/>

### OCM'S MOST RECENT NEWSLETTERS

[https://competitivemarkets.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/OCM\\_Oct-Dec\\_2021\\_Newsletter\\_web.pdf](https://competitivemarkets.com/wp-content/uploads/2022/01/OCM_Oct-Dec_2021_Newsletter_web.pdf)

<https://competitivemarkets.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/10/webOCMJuly-Oct21.pdf>

Organization for Competitive Markets | P.O. Box 6486, Lincoln NE

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**For More News & Info, Please See Link(s) and/or Attachment(s) Above and/or Below**



**Sent by:**  
**Sent by: Brad Trom, Director & Newsletter**  
**Sent by: Brad Trom, Director & Newsletter Editor**  
**Dodge County Concerned Citizens**  
Brad Trom, Newsletter Editor & Director  
Post Office Box 757



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