



***** July 11, 2018 *****

Top Stories

---ARIZONA FARM BUREAU PRESIDENT SMALLHOUSE TO TESTIFY BEFORE CONGRESS TOMORROW MORNING! --- Representing Arizona and American Farm Bureau, Arizona Farm Bureau President Stefanie Smallhouse testifies before the Federal Lands subcommittee of the House Committee on Natural Resources **Thursday, July 12th at 10:00a.m. EST**. The hearing, which is on “The Essential Role of Livestock Grazing on Federal Lands and Its Importance to Rural America,” gives our western ranchers a chance to tell our story. Smallhouse is one of four witnesses testifying that morning about livestock grazing.

SAVE THE DATE: To schedule in your calendar and watch live, select the following link: <https://naturalresources.house.gov/calendar/eventsingle.aspx?EventID=405255>.

The Honorable Brad Little
Lieutenant Governor
State of Idaho
Boise, Idaho

Ms. Stefanie Smallhouse
President
Arizona Farm Bureau
Gilbert, Ariz.

Dr. Dave Naugle
Professor
Wildlife Biology Program
University of Montana
Missoula, Mont.

Mr. Erik Molvar
Executive Director
Western Watersheds Project
Laramie, Wyo.

---ARIZONA FARM BUREAU PRESIDENT ON NATIONAL TV! --- Arizona Farm Bureau President Stefanie Smallhouse was interviewed today by RFD-TV regarding the Endangered Species Act. She has solutions to make it better. [The Interview](#)



---TASTING HISTORY, ARIZONA'S ANCIENT GRAINS--- Ancient Grains that originated in the Fertile Crescent are grown and processed by Arizona farm families. Farm Bureau members, Janna Anderson and Steve Sossaman are two farm families especially familiar with growing ancient grains. [What We Grow](#)

---MEET ARIZONA AGRICULTURE'S MORIN FAMILY--- The public's idea of the cowboy and ranching is somewhat romanticized. The fact is, however, there are times, that ranching is not romantic at all. It is real life. [Here's their story.](#)

---RECORD-HIGH AGRICULTURAL EXPORTS IN MAY 2018--- Data recently released from the Agriculture Department's Foreign Agricultural Service's [Global Agricultural Trade System](#) indicates that U.S. farmers and ranchers exported a record \$12.3 billion of agricultural products to 174 countries during May 2018, up 15 percent from prior-year levels.

The top markets for U.S. agricultural products in May were Canada (\$1.9 billion), Mexico (\$1.7 billion), Japan (\$1.2 billion), South Korea (\$813 million) and China (\$720 million). Exports to Canada and Mexico were up 1 percent and 5 percent from prior-year levels, respectively. Japan and South Korea exports were up 10 percent and 20 percent, respectively. Finally, exports to China were down 6 percent compared to prior-year levels. However, Chinese oilseed exports were up 38 percent from May of last year.

Oilseeds and oilseed product exports were up 74 percent to \$2.3 billion, and were record high for May. Grain and feed exports were up 14 percent at \$3.1 billion. Cotton exports were up 24 percent to \$789 million. Horticultural product exports were unchanged at \$2.8 billion. Livestock and meat exports were up 7 percent to \$1.7 billion. Finally, dairy product exports were up 1 percent to \$505 million. [Market Intel Minute](#)

---PRESIDENT DUVALL TALKS TRADE ON FOX BUSINESS NEWS--- Fox Business News interviewed AFBF President Zippy Duvall for a story about how the current trade situation is affecting agriculture. "We're very concerned about what's going on in the trade arena," Duvall said. "This is high stakes," he added, especially considering the current state of the farm economy. Duvall also pointed out that farmers want to make their money in the market. Farm Bureau's message to the president is "we have to get this done in a timely manner," he said, referring to finding solutions to trade issues harming agriculture. Watch the [clip](#).

---FARM BILL READY FOR CONFERENCE---With recent passage of the Senate farm bill, the Agriculture Improvement Act of 2018 (S. 3042), congressional lawmakers are expected to soon head to conference to iron out the differences between the House and Senate legislation. The House passed its version of the bill, the Agriculture and Nutrition Act of 2018 (H.R. 2), on June 21.

Noting the tough circumstances farmers and ranchers are up against, AFBF President Zippy Duvall said progress on the farm bill is very timely. “The Senate pushed the farm bill one big step closer to the finish line and it could not have come at a better time. America’s farmers and ranchers continue to face a challenging agricultural economy, a shaky outlook for our export markets and a dire ag labor shortage. It was time for some good news and the Senate delivered it in bipartisan fashion,” Duvall said in a statement. [FBNews article](#) [Newslines \(podcast\)](#)

---AMERICAN TRADING PARTNERS RETALIATE WITH TARIFFS---Some of America’s biggest trading partners are retaliating against the Trump administration’s aluminum and steel tariffs with tariffs of their own. Dave Salmonsen explained in a recent [Newslines](#) how the situation is playing out in the form of 25 percent retaliatory tariffs from Canada on U.S. ag products, including pizza, yogurt, chocolate, orange juice, beer and whiskey. “The European Union is also retaliating for the same reason, and, for ag products, they’ve included rice and cranberries, peanut butter, kidney beans...also whiskey,” Salmonsen said. Mexico has done things in two levels. In June, a 10 percent tariff was implemented on U.S. pork, cheese, apples and whiskey. At the beginning of July, that goes up to 20 percent.”

---GRAIN STOCKPILES MOUNTING AS PRICES CONTINUE FALLING---The Agriculture Department’s quarterly [Grain Stocks](#) report provides survey-based estimates of all whole grains and oilseeds stored on farm operations or stored off-farm in commercial grain storage facilities. This grain storage report also provides an opportunity to estimate the disappearance, i.e. domestic use and exports, of grains and oilseeds during the previous quarter. The June 29 Grain Stocks report revealed corn inventory at 5.31 billion bushels as of June 1, up 77 million bushels, or 1.4 percent, from prior-year levels. Soybeans in inventory totaled 1.22 billion bushels as of June 1, 256 million bushels, or 26.5 percent, above 2017 levels. These June 1 inventory levels were record-high for soybeans and the third-highest level reported for corn.

While inventory levels were at or near all-time highs, so too was implied consumption of corn and soybeans. Corn disappearance from March 1 to June 1 was a record 3.6 billion bushels, 193 million bushels, or 6 percent, above prior-year levels. Soybean disappearance was a record 888 million bushels, up 155 million bushels, or 15 percent, from 2017 consumption levels. Record consumption levels are not unanticipated as USDA [projected](#) corn use during 2017/18 to increase 1 percent to a record 14.8 billion bushels, and for soybean use to remain in line with the prior-year’s record of 4.2 billion bushels.



---NOMINATIONS FOR THE 2019 ARIZONA FARMING AND RANCHING HALL OF FAME ARE DUE SEPTEMBER 1, 2018--- Do you know someone who has made a difference in the field of Arizona agriculture over the years and should be recognized for their work and dedication? If so, please take the time to nominate them for possible inclusion in the 2019 Arizona Farming and Ranching Hall of Fame.

Nomination forms are available at www.azfare.org. The **completed nomination form** and all supporting material, i.e. biographical material, pictures, newspaper clippings, letters of recommendation, etc., **must be received at P.O. Box 868, Glendale, AZ 85311 no later than 5 pm on Saturday, September 1, 2018.**

Each year the Arizona Farming and Ranching Hall of Fame inducts eight individuals or families from the fields of farming, ranching, Agri-business, education or science. Periodically, an individual from an associated field who has made noteworthy contributions to the agricultural industry will also be included. Nominations will be reviewed by a panel of individuals from a diversity of backgrounds.

Inductees will be honored at the 11th Annual Arizona Farming and Ranching Hall of Fame Honoree Dinner on March 2, 2019 at The Wigwam Resort in Litchfield Park. They will also be included in Volume Three of the Arizona Farming and Ranching Hall of Fame book, which will be published in 2022.

For more information contact Carole De Cosmo at 623 623-695-9614 or e-mail her at codeco2@aol.com.

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---NEW BENEFIT WITH AIRMEDCARE NETWORK--- Aerocare Medical Transport, Guardian Flight and Arizona Lifeline—three of Arizona's preeminent air ambulance providers—are proud to be a part of the AirMedCare Network, which is an

alliance among the leading AirMedical Service providers, creating America's largest air ambulance membership network. By becoming a member of AirMedCare Network, you will be covered by all AirMedCare Network providers in all of their service areas, which are ever-expanding. **Arizona Farm Bureau Members can now enroll online!** Visit www.amcnrep.com and enter **COUPON CODE: 14171-AZ-BUS** to receive your Farm Bureau discount.

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Agriculture and Farm Bureau News is a weekly service to Farm Bureau leaders from the Arizona Farm Bureau, 325 S. Higley Rd., Ste. 210, Gilbert, AZ 85296. For more information, contact Farm Bureau Director of Public Relations Julie Murphree at 480.635.3607 or juliemurphree@azfb.org.

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