

Wyoming Agriculture

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Legislative interim topics set for 2025 session

BY BRETT MOLINE

The interim topics for the 2025 Wyoming legislative session have been set by the legislature. Throughout the interim, committees will be working on issues important to the people of Wyoming. All committees will also receive reports from state agencies relevant to the work of the particular committee.

The following topics assigned to various committees are among some of the many issues on which the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation (WyFB) will be engaged. The stance taken will depend on member policy. The listed topics are issues WyFB will for certain weigh in on. All committees will be monitored to determine if WyFB needs to take action.

Judiciary

The Judiciary Committee will examine the issue of foreign ownership of resources in Wy-

oming. The Agriculture Committee brought this issue forward however the issue was assigned to this committee. Issues of national security will be examined for risks to Wyoming and the U.S.

Revenue

The Revenue Committee will again work on property tax issues. Issues associated with property tax are tax relief, tax on personal property used for business, and reviewing how land qualifies for agricultural use.

This committee will also explore options to replace reductions in property tax, including raising sales and use taxes.

Agriculture

The Agriculture Committee will work on eminent domain issues regarding wind and solar energy collector lines.

This committee will also work on the issue of temporary change

in use of water rights. Additional topics assigned to this committee are the issue of right to repair farm equipment and natural asset companies.

Corporations

The Corporations Committee will again work on telecommunications issues, including carrier of last resort and the Universal Service Fund.

Minerals

The Minerals Committee will work on issues associated with produced water and hydrogen production.

Select Water

This committee will work on issues dealing with the Colorado River Compact and groundwater appropriation and management.

Visit wyfb.org and click on the "Advocacy/Legislative" tab for a link to the interim topics list. ■



FFA to YF&R!

The University of Wyoming Collegiate Farm Bureau at the 2024 Wyoming FFA State Convention mid-April. Collegiate Farm Bureau President Jordan Anderson and Member Jennifer Parker are all smiles as they share with Wyoming FFA students about the agricultural leadership opportunities through the Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmer & Rancher program.

Key aspects of Corporate Transparency Act outlined in NALC webinar

BY KELLY CARPENTER

The Corporate Transparency Act that was passed as a part of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) 2021 will be implemented over 2024. Kristine Tidgren, Director of the Center for Agricultural Law and Taxation at Iowa State University, was on a recent National Agricultural Law Center webinar.

The webinar went through key aspects of the law including Beneficial Ownership Information (BOI) Reporting and the important details of who must file, what type of companies have to file, and how they file this information with the Department of the Treasury Financial Crimes Enforcement Network (FinCEN).

The presentation largely focused on the BOI reporting requirements. As reported by Tidgren, the history surrounding the BOI reporting stems from many in Congress trying for years to pass legislation to address the problems of shell corporations contributing to financial crimes.

It was vetoed by President Trump in 2020 but passed via Congressional override and was enacted on January 1, 2021.

The law builds on state business registration but on a federal level. It will require more than 32 million businesses to begin filing new reports to disclose their beneficial owners to FinCEN. This sub-agency of the Department of Treasury will maintain a national registry of beneficial owners of entities that aren't subject to current disclosure regulations in the same way large corporations are currently subject to.

The webinar explained further that companies created prior to January 1, 2024, have until January 1, 2025 to file their initial reports. While companies created in 2024 have 90 days after creation to file their initial reports. With all the law attempts to accomplish, there have already been challenges to the constitutionality of the law in the courts by certain entities representing businesses.

Tidgren outlined who is subject to this reporting law by describing the types of

entities that are typically filed with secretaries of state offices. This encompasses domestic and foreign reporting companies, such as Limited Partnerships, Sole Proprietorship, S Corporation, C Corporation, Limited Liability Corporations, or really any business created by a filing with a secretary of state office or Indian tribe. Some exemptions include, non-profit organizations, public utilities, banks, government authorities, venture capital funds, insurance companies, among others.

Further, beneficial owners that will be reported by these companies are individuals who exercise "substantial control" over the company or "own or control 25% or more of the reporting company." This can be described as C-suite employees, officers and other persons that aid in making substantial decisions for the reporting company. Tidgren further examined direct or indirect control scenarios as well.

The CTA also outlines that a reporting company must disclose the legal name

and any trade name or DBA of the company. The complete address of the principle place of business, the state in which the entity was formed, and its Taxpayer Identification Number (TIN). Each beneficial owner will need to disclose full legal name, birth date, drivers license, and complete address. Upon completing this, FinCEN will provide a FinCEN identifying number for the beneficial owner to use to provide company reports and updates. Tidgren closed the presentation by going through the reporting page by page on the FinCEN website so viewers can see what to expect when they may begin the reporting process. In closing, the webinar examined the multiple aspects and nuances of the law, but recommended that potential beneficial owners contact their attorneys before delving into the complex process.

A link to the National Agricultural Law Center webinar recording and presentation slides is available at wyfb.org at the news tab. ■

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- May**
 8-9 Select Water Legislative Committee Meeting-Cheyenne
 8-10 Joint Minerals Legislative Interim Committee Meeting-Laramie
 10 Converse County Farm Bureau Federation Spring Fling at 5:30 p.m.—Moose Lodge in Douglas
 14-15 Joint Travel Legislative Interim Committee Meeting-Cody
 15 WyFB Foundation Charitable Contributions Application Deadline
 30-31 Joint Revenue Legislative Interim Committee Meeting-Casper
 31 WyFB Membership Committee Meeting-Hilton Garden Inn in Casper
- June**
 3-4 Joint Transportation Legislative Interim Committee Meeting-Rock Springs
 5 Select Federal Natural Resource Management Legislative Committee-Rock Springs
 10-11 Joint Agriculture Legislative Interim Committee Meeting-Rock Springs
 20-21 Joint Labor Legislative Interim Committee Meeting-Pinedale
- July**
 9-10 Joint Travel Legislative Interim Committee Meeting-Casper
 17-18 Joint Revenue Legislative Interim Committee Meeting-Sheridan
 30-31 Joint Minerals Legislative Interim Committee Meeting-Casper
- November**
 7-9 WyFB 105th Annual Meeting-Ramkota Hotel in Casper

Visit wyfb.org for event updates



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Raising the Stakes in Ag Innovation

Zippy Duvall

American Farm Bureau Federation President



Innovation has long been a driving force behind progress in agriculture. From iron plows to driverless tractors and from pocket notebooks to instant Artificial Intelligence systems, new ideas and innovative businesses have continually pushed the boundaries of what's possible in farming.

That is why at Farm Bureau, we value innovation as it helps spur agriculture on to new frontiers. More than a decade ago, we launched our Ag Innovation Challenge, a competition to help showcase innovative businesses that address challenges facing America's farmers, ranchers and rural communities. For 2025, I'm pleased to announce that we're doubling the prize to double the impact. Our winner will take home \$100,000. Yes, I thought that might get your attention. The competition is officially open so I encourage ag entrepreneurs to apply.

We're proud of our past winners and their work to advance agriculture. For instance, our 2024 winner, Barn Owl Precision, is supporting small and midsize farms with its autonomous robot that assists in planting, soil sampling, weed control and spraying. We also saw how our runner-up, Udder Ways, developed a new autonomous system that improves sanitation and enhances milk flow as dairy cattle

are milked. Two shining examples of entrepreneurs dedicated to supporting farmers in their mission of providing the food, fuel and fiber we all rely on.

The Ag Innovation Challenge is now in its 11th year, thanks to our partnership with Farm Credit and our sponsors Bayer Crop Science, John Deere, Farm Bureau Bank, Farm Bureau Financial Services and T-Mobile. Together, we have invested over \$1.5 million in agricultural businesses. This kind of investment not only helps entrepreneurs in the early financial stages of business but also supports innovations that can solve the challenges we're facing both today and tomorrow.

The Ag Innovation Challenge is more than a competition, though: it's a platform for growth and collaboration. Many of our previous winners have reflected on how the relationships they built during the process have been just as valuable as the prize money.

Additionally, Challenge finalists gain invaluable exposure and networking opportunities as they showcase their innovations at the American Farm Bureau Convention Trade Show. As an entrepreneur, how great would it be to connect directly with farmers and ranchers and even demonstrate how your solution can address

real-world challenges? That is why we purposely set up the final round of the competition at the Cultivation Center Stage on our trade show floor. We put these finalists front-and-center to pitch their businesses to our panel of judges—and to thousands of potential customers, our farmer and rancher members.

As we look ahead to the 2025 Ag Innovation Challenge, I encourage you to check out fb.org/challenge to learn more about this competition, see some of our wonderful past winners, and share the information about the contest with an entrepreneur you may know.

We encourage all entrepreneurs with innovative agricultural solutions to seize this opportunity to be a part of something truly transformative for their business. Whether it's new technologies, strategies to reduce operating costs or even new approaches to support our rural communities, your ideas have the power to drive agriculture forward.

Again, applications for the 2025 Ag Innovation Challenge are now open, so don't wait to apply! I am already excited to see the next group of finalists who rise to the top and their innovations that will undoubtedly help shape the future of agriculture. ■

AFBF to USDA: Restore NASS Surveys

APRIL 16, 2024

The American Farm Bureau Federation on April 16 urged USDA to reverse its decision to cancel livestock and crop surveys that are crucial to the success of America's farmers and ranchers. The National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) recently announced it would no longer provide a July cattle inventory survey, as well as county-level estimates for crops and livestock and the objective yield survey for cotton.

AFBF President Zippy Duvall sent a letter to USDA to emphasize the importance of the surveys, particularly the July cattle report. "NASS' two reports regarding the total U.S. cattle inventory, published on Jan. 31 and in late July, give farmers, ranchers, researchers

and other data users a full picture of supplies in the U.S. cattle sector at the beginning and in the middle of each year. This allows for a fair assessment of the cattle market for the next six months. Eliminating the mid-year report puts the market in the dark for the second half of the year, removes market transparency and increases market volatility. Data will only be available to those who can afford to collect it, further threatening competition in the packing sector."

Farmers are price takers not price makers and have no control over the markets in which their livestock is sold. Market transparency is essential where four companies control 85% of the cattle market.

The loss of the Objective Yield Survey for cotton may also increase the level of un-

certainty throughout the summer and early fall for cotton markets, and the elimination of county yield estimates will undercut the research upon which risk management programs, including crop insurance, are based.

"Eliminating county-level yield and production data for crops and livestock will also severely impact research from our land-grant institutions and only place the U.S. farther behind its trade competitors," President Duvall wrote. "Recent research by USDA's Economic Research Service showed that the U.S. trails its global competitors in public agricultural research."

Farm Bureau is disappointed in NASS' decision to discontinue these critical reporting tools and urges the department to reconsider its decision. ■

'Forever chemical' rule creates uncertainty for farmers

APRIL 19, 2024

American Farm Bureau Federation President Zippy Duvall commented April 19 on the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) final rule to designate perfluorooctanoic acid (PFOA) and perfluorooctanesulfonic acid (PFOS), the two most common per- and polyfluoralkyl substances (PFAS), as hazardous materials under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA).

"America's farmers and ranchers share the goal of protecting the nation's water supplies and they believe those responsible for PFAS contamination should be held accountable. Unfortunately, farmers could be unfairly targeted even though they do not create or use any PFAS in their operations, but may have passively received the chemicals. We acknowledge that EPA is saying it does not want farmers and ranchers to be penalized for a situation they did not create, but without those assurances being

expressly written into the rule, future enforcement is uncertain," Duvall wrote.

"This is a problem facing all of us. Our members, like all families in America, are completely unaware of the PFAS levels on their property until it's too late because these chemicals are coming from outside sources. As mitigation efforts move forward, it's important that farmers are not held responsible for the presence of PFAS chemicals, which they did not produce or intentionally use," Duvall concluded. ■

National news updates

BY KELLY CARPENTER

Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza Detected in Dairy Cattle

In late March, Highly Pathogenic Avian Influenza (HPAI) was detected in dairy cattle in the southern United States. Information provided by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) indicates HPAI was transmitted to the cattle from wild birds. The animals experience lethargy and marked decrease

in milk output. Otherwise, with supportive care the cows recover and return to relatively normal within two weeks. In addition, pasteurization of the milk appears to kill the virus continuing a safe, domestic milk supply. The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) are monitoring the situation, but assure the public this is a low risk situation. At the present time, there have been no detections of HPAI in beef cattle. ■



Happy 60th Anniversary Garie & Karen Henry!

Please help us celebrate Garie & Karen Henry at their 60th Anniversary Open House.

Saturday May 25, 2024
6-8 p.m.
American Legion Hall
100 County Road 224
Fort Bridger, Wyoming

Please join our family for cake, visiting and sharing stories about Garie & Karen.

If you are unable to attend and would like to send a card their address is P.O. Box 70, Robertson, WY 82944.

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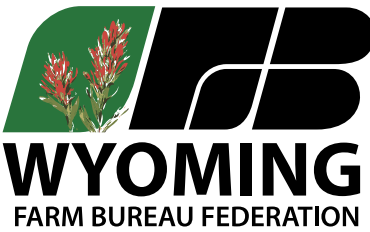


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The Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation believes constitutional government, the competitive enterprise system, property rights and individual freedom are necessary components for a strong agriculture, a strong Wyoming and a strong America. We are a centennial grassroots organization that cares about your future. Whether you are a farmer, rancher or a consumer of food...membership is a good investment to secure stability of agriculture here in Wyoming. As a member, WyFB provides you with exclusive benefits as a way to say thank you. These benefits may pay your annual membership fee many times over.

Visit **wyfb.org** and click on the **“Membership/Benefits”** tab for a complete listing of value-added benefits. Current members may access member benefits at **www.wyfb.org** and click on the **“Membership/Benefits”** tab. You may also utilize the Farm Bureau Member Benefits app on your phone to access your benefits. **Questions:** email broes@wyfb.org or call 307-721-7723.

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Volunteering through ‘Ag Books’ gives opportunity to grow agriculture knowledge

BY SETH ALLEN,
WyFB YF&R COMMITTEE MEMBER

Another year of the WyFB Young Farmer Rancher Ag Book for Kids draws near. A great program that brings agriculture into the classroom across the state. This is a special program for Wyoming. Starting with the proclamation by the governor for Ag Literacy Week to the Young Farmer and Rancher Ag Books for Kids. Growing up in Arizona, I saw limited Ag Literacy and attention to agriculture within the schools. Certainly, not all of Arizona is this way, but Agriculture should be represented within every school to clarify a basic understanding of where and how food, fibers, and fuel are created. I have been fortunate to have some influences in my life to understand the necessity of Agriculture. The hope for a promising future starts with education.

This year I participated in the reading of “Seed, Soil, Sun” at the Lusk Elementary Middle School for Ag Books for Kids. This book by Cris Peterson highlights how nature creates food through the cycle of growth and harvest. I am amazed by the perspectives of kids and how different age groups have understood aspects of agriculture. For instance, kindergartners may not know the term agriculture but know it by farming or ranching.



Seth Allen

It was neat to see the progression of growth and knowledge of agriculture by the kids through the different grades. I believe we were able to help grow their understanding of agriculture through the Ag Books for Kids program. Niobrara

County also took part in the activity for the book of planting a seed and watching it germinate. A simple yet great way to bring the book and its concepts full circle. Reading the book and following it up with discussion and an activity brought about a deeper retention of the information presented. I am hopeful that we clarified and brought about new questions about Agriculture for the kids. The general feeling of the kids was Agriculture is important.

Getting to volunteer in general is a neat way to get involved within your local community. Getting to volunteer through your local county Farm Bureau to read and talk about agriculture to me is far better than some other service projects.

The best way to change the disconnect between farmers and ranchers and consumers is through education. Children are indeed the future and they must be presented with a basic understanding of agriculture. The Ag Books for Kids program is a great way for you and your local county Farm Bureau to make an impression on the young minds of future producers and consumers. I have greatly enjoyed volunteering in the classroom and hope to do it again in the future. ■

About the author: Seth Allen represents the Southeast District on the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation Young Farmer & Rancher Committee. He works with his aunt in Niobrara County on her cattle ranch.



Niobrara County Rancher Seth Allen sharing agriculture in Niobrara County schools through the WyFB YF&R “Ag Books for Kids” program.



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2022 EPA Emissions Inventory highlights agriculture's sustainability strides

BY DANIEL MUNCH,
AMERICAN FARM BUREAU FEDERATION ECONOMIST

On April 11, the Environmental Protection Agency published the latest edition of the Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks: 1990-2022. The report has been published annually since 1990 and provides an annual estimate of all man-made greenhouse gas emission sources in the U.S. as well as estimates of the amount of carbon trapped in forest and vegetation soil. This report is submitted to the United Nations as part of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change reporting guidelines on annual inventories, which is part of a global standardized process for reporting greenhouse gas emissions. Previous Market Intel articles have reviewed the emissions for 2017 (Agriculture and Greenhouse Gas Emissions), 2018 (Agriculture's Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks), 2019 (Previewing 2019 Agricultural Emissions), 2020 (2020 EPA Emissions Inventory Demonstrates Agriculture's Advancements in Sustainability) and 2021 (2021 EPA Emissions Inventory Demonstrates Agriculture's Continuing Advancements in Sustainability), as well as trends in carbon sequestration (Reviewing U.S. Carbon Sequestration).

U.S. agriculture represents just under 10% of total U.S. emissions when compared to other economic sectors. Overall U.S. greenhouse gas emissions increased from 2021 to 2022 by 1.3%, though agricultural emissions dropped 1.8% - the largest decrease of any economic sector. The aggregate nationwide emissions increase in 2022 was likely a result of the continued return of economic activity after the COVID-19 pandemic; with the slow return of food service, entertainment and travel came the emissions associated with those activities. Agricultural production remained vital throughout the COVID-19 disruptions and lockdowns as the world still required food. Net emissions were 17% below 2005 levels.

The nearly 2% drop in U.S. agricultural emissions from 2021 to 2022 highlights the success and continued importance of voluntary, market- and incentive-based conservation practices that help farmers and ranchers access finances for the research and technology needed to take ever-better care of our natural resources. 2022 marks the lowest U.S. agricultural greenhouse gas emissions since 2012.

This article provides an overview of 2022 emissions as detailed in EPA's Inventory of U.S. Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks: 1990-2022 report. It is important to note, each year EPA updates the methodologies used for their estimations and retroactively applies this updated methodology to all years since 1990. This means that data in this iteration of the report is not comparable to the values reported last year.

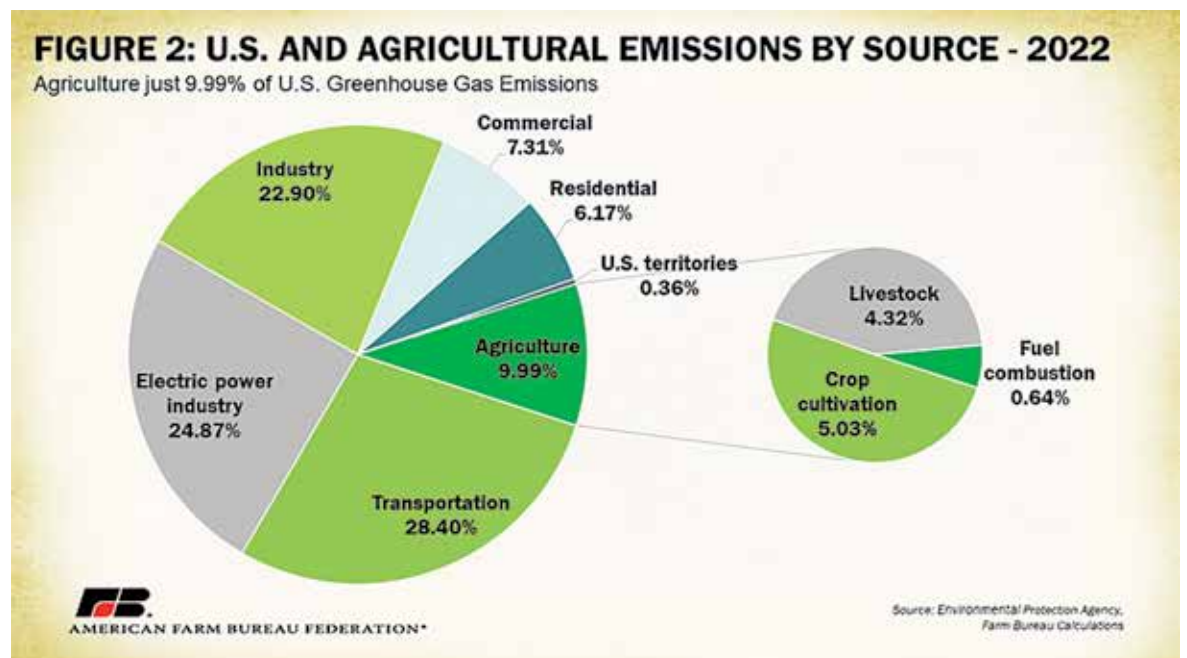
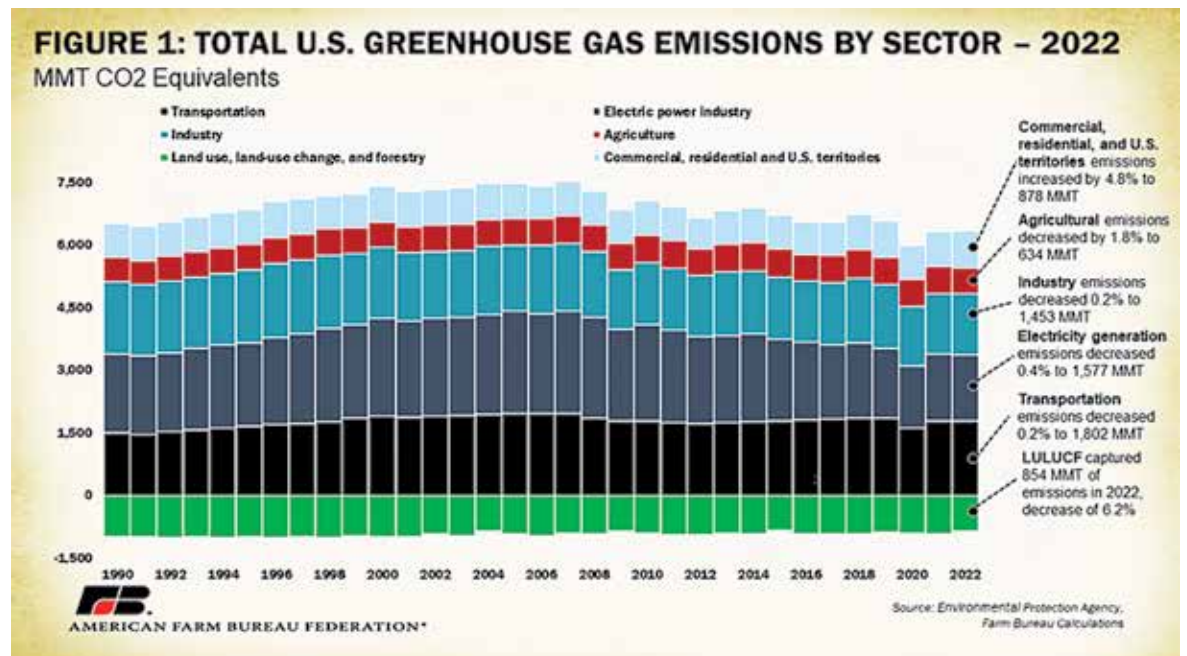
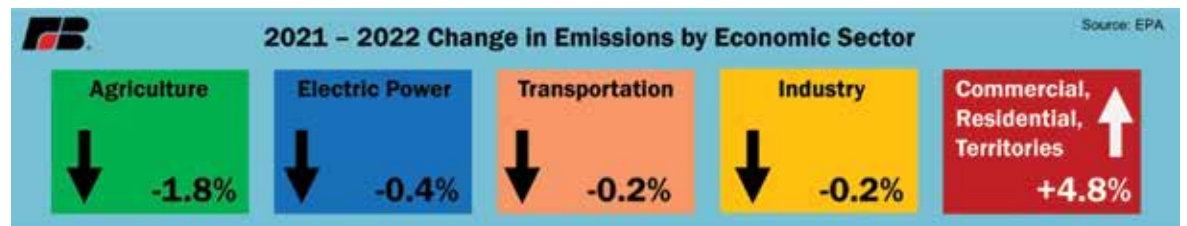
2022 Emissions and Sinks

In 2022, EPA reports, total U.S. emissions from all man-made sources was 6.34 billion metric tons in CO₂ equivalents, which is a 14-million-metric-ton increase compared to 2021 when U.S. emissions totaled 6.32 billion metric tons in CO₂ equivalents. Land use, land-use changes and forestry (LULUCF) trapped 854 million metric tons of carbon in the soils, representing 13% of total U.S. emissions. 2022 net emissions, which combine total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions with the sequestered greenhouse gas emissions, totaled 5.5 billion metric tons, up 1.3% from 2021. Again, this increase is likely linked to the continued rebound of economic activity after initial COVID-19 economic disruptions.

The largest emissions source was the transportation sector, representing 28% of total emissions and totaling 1.8 billion metric tons. Transportation emissions declined 0.2%, or 4 million metric tons, from the prior year. Following transportation, electricity generation represented 25% of total emissions at 1.57 billion metric tons. Emissions from the electric power industry were down 0.4% from 2021 after a 6.9% increase between 2020 and 2021. The industrial sector, which includes the production of iron and steel, as well as other input materials like cement, represented 23% of all emissions at 1.45 billion metric tons. Emissions from the industrial sector declined 0.2% compared to 2020. The commercial and residential sectors and U.S. territories represented 14% of all U.S. emissions, increasing a significant 4.8% compared to 2021. Emissions in this category are heavily linked to building-related activities such as heating, cooling and cooking. U.S. territory emissions, including emissions from American Samoa, Guam, Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands and Northern Mariana Islands, make up only 0.4% of total emissions.

Agricultural Emissions in 2022

By EPA's own methodology, emissions from agriculture totaled 634 million metric tons in CO₂ equivalents, or 9.99% of all U.S. emissions, during 2022. This represents a decrease of 1.8%, or 12 million



metric tons, from 2021. This follows a 0.9%, or 6-million-metric-ton, increase between 2020 and 2021 and a 3.2%, or 21-million-metric-ton, drop between 2019 and 2020. EPA further categorizes agricultural emissions by crop cultivation, livestock and fuel combustion. In 2022, crop cultivation emissions totaled 319 million metric tons, down 1.7%, or 6 million metric tons, from 2021 and just over 5% of total emissions. At 4.3% of total emissions, livestock emissions were 274 million metric tons, down 2.1%, or 6 million metric tons, from 2021. This is likely linked to smaller livestock inventories, particularly beef cattle, which were liquidated at higher rates in 2022 due to drought conditions. Fuel combustion utilized by the agricultural sector contributed 41 million metric tons in 2022, down 1 million metric tons, or 1.2%, from 2021, a mere 0.64% of total emissions.

For livestock categories specifically, enteric emissions from beef cattle sat at 2.19% of total U.S. emissions in 2022, or 137 million metric tons of the 6.34 billion metric ton total. This is a 2.43%, or 3.3-mil-

lion-metric-ton, decline from 2021. Dairy cattle contributed only 0.77% of total emissions or 49 million metric tons - a 451,000-metric-ton decrease from 2021. Swine, sheep and horses were a mere 0.05%, 0.02% and 0.02% of the total, respectively.

EPA also estimates agricultural emissions using a second methodology consistent with that of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change. By this measure, U.S. agricultural emissions for 2022 totaled 593 million metric tons, down 1.9%, or 11 million metric tons, from 2021, representing 9.3% of all U.S. greenhouse gas emissions. This methodology breaks down agriculture into additional categories not considered in the base methodology. In this data set, the largest source of U.S. agricultural emissions was agricultural soil management, e.g., fertilizer applications or tillage practices, at 290 million metric tons, a 7.2-million-metric-ton, or 2.4%, decrease. Agricultural soil management represents approximately 50% of all agricultural emissions, but only 4.6% of total U.S. emissions.

The people of the Farm Bureau Federation

Meet the volunteer leader: Angus Powell

County: Washakie

Leadership Positions:

- Washakie County Farm Bureau Federation President

Wyoming Agriculture: Describe your agriculture background.

Powell: I grew up on our family ranch in Colorado and then in Ten Sleep, WY. The family lost the ranch in the early 80s and moved to Worland. After this, I worked on several farms and ranches while getting through a couple years of college with an ag business degree. In my mid- 20s, I started hauling livestock with Geis Trucking and have moved on to owning and operating my own trucking business (Brat Trucking). I still haul mainly livestock for my living.

Wyoming Agriculture: Tell us about your family.

Powell: I am married to Roxilee (a nurse) and have 5 daughters of which 4 are grown and have started their own lives. We still have one teenager at home to keep things busy as well as a 2-year-old granddaughter who visits. There are more grandbabies on the way. We live just outside of Worland, WY on a small hobby farm.

Wyoming Agriculture: How did you get involved in Farm Bureau Federation leadership?

Powell: We have always had FB insurance ever since I can remember thinking about insurance. So, when my cousin and Jim Miller asked if I would be interested in being on the Washakie County FB Board, I thought, "sure! I'll try that!" When I went to my first legislative meeting in Cheyenne, I was able to see the effectiveness of the Federation side of the FB and have been involved ever since.

Wyoming Agriculture: Why do you make the time to be involved in Farm Bureau Federation leadership?

Powell: I make it a priority to be involved with Farm Bureau because I have found it to be an effective way to have input on ag and community issues. When issues go beyond the local level, Farm Bureau has a good organization looking out for our interests at both the state and federal levels.

Wyoming Agriculture: Can you share an example of a policy that has had a positive impact on your work?

Powell: On a personal note, the Farm Bureau has touched on issues that very directly affect my business. For instance, when the DOT was making changes to the hours-of-service rules as far as it pertained to the log books when hauling agricultural products, the Farm Bureau Federation stepped up to advocate for more workable hours on behalf of those who would be adversely affected. The Federation has also successfully influenced fuel and property taxes. In addition, they keep a close eye on proposed legislation and rulemaking. They alert members of these concerns and fight for us to block or minimize the effects.

Wyoming Agriculture: What advice do you have on how individuals can make a difference for Wyoming agriculture through the Farm Bureau Federation?

Powell: I believe that being a Regular Member of Farm Bureau allows people to interact with their local Farm Bureau boards. This enables those of us on the local level to help set policy and to change it when needed. We, as members, can take local concerns up the chain to the county, then to the state, and then to the federal level to influence change. Thus, an individual can make a difference from Wyoming.



Trucking, farming and ranching with Angus Powell.

Wyoming Agriculture: What are some of the issues facing farmers and ranchers in your county?

Powell: Since Washakie County has both farming and ranching operations, there are very few policies that don't concern us. We have water and irrigation infrastructure controlled by state and federal entities, grazing issues on federal and state land, and predator control issues.

Wyoming Agriculture: How important is each member of the Federation?

Powell: Where Farm Bureau Federation is a grassroots organization, the policies that guide those who speak on our behalf to our lawmakers come from the bottom up. The members are the firm foundation. That foundation consists of farmers, ranchers, truckers, ag business owners, and you. With that in mind, I would say members are truly the most important part of the equation for Farm Bureau to be successful. ■

Cooking With the Modern Ranch-Wife

Shearing Day Burgers

Recipe By Connie Werner

Ingredients:

- 1.5-2 pds ground beef
- 1 onion, finely diced
- 1 pkg Lipton onion soup mix
- 1 tablespoon creamy peanut butter
- 1/2 cup milk
- 1 pkg slider buns
- sliced American cheese



Instructions:

1. In a large bowl mix burger, soup mix, peanut butter, and milk. Spread the meat mixture evenly onto a cookie sheet with sides. Use a cup or rolling pin to create an even layer of meat.
2. Put the meat into a 350° oven for 10 minutes. The meat will shrink. Remove from the oven and discard drippings.
3. Place the diced onions over the meat. Return to the oven for 15 minutes.
4. Remove from the oven and place the cheese slices over the entire meat surface. Place back into the oven until the cheese is melted.
5. Place the tops of the buns onto the meat and cheese. Bake for a few minutes to warm the buns.
6. Remove from oven and using a pizza cutter cut between the buns. Remove each bun and burger section and place onto the bottom. Serve immediately or wrap in foil and freeze for up to three months.

For more recipes visit: www.modernranchwife.com

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Farm Bureau Federation Gold, Silver and Century Club 2024 Member recognition

The Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation is a grassroots membership organization that cares about your future. We believe constitutional government, the competitive enterprise system, property rights and individual freedom are necessary components for a strong agriculture, a strong Wyoming and a strong America.

The Farm Bureau Federation is organized, controlled and financed by members who pay annual dues. Each voice added to the united Farm Bureau Federation voice helps keep agriculture strong. Gold Club, Silver Club, and Century Club memberships are available to Farm Bureau Federation members, associate and regular, who want to increase their level of support. In addition to the standard member benefits, members in these three tiers receive a weekly legislative update during the Wyoming Legislature and annual recognition in *Wyoming Agriculture*.

Our mission is to represent the voices of Wyoming farmers and ranchers through grassroots policy development while focusing on protecting private property rights, strengthening agriculture, and supporting farm and ranch families through advocacy, education, and leadership development. We thank all members for supporting the work of the Federation.

GOLD CLUB MEMBERSHIP:
\$500 annual dues

Agriculture is one of the economic keystones for Wyoming and membership supports the farmers and ranchers who help keep our state strong. By becoming a Gold Club Member for only \$1.37 per day you show the greatest level of membership support for your county, state and national Farm Bureau Federation as well as your Wyoming neighbors who work the land.

Gold Club Members

- Denise & Kevin Baars, Lusk
- Todd Fornstrom/ Premium Hay Products, LLC, Pine Bluffs
- Kathy & Ken Hamilton, Laramie
- Melissa & Matthew Stroh, Newcastle

SILVER CLUB MEMBERSHIP:
\$250 annual dues

The two percent of our population that grow food for the rest of us face daunting issues. Issues affecting agriculture include regulatory pressures, private property rights and access to important tools to keep growing food for our country. Your contribution of only 69¢ per day supports an organization that supports you and works to keep agriculture strong in Wyoming.

Silver Club Members

- Brad & Rob Boner/ Boner Bros Partnership, Douglas
- Sammie & Cole Coxbill, Torrington
- Joni & Robert Pennock, Pinedale
- Julie & Ron Rabou/ Rabou Farms Inc, Albin

CENTURY CLUB MEMBERSHIP:
\$100 annual dues

For over a century, the Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation has united to keep agriculture strong and support the production of food. Increase your level of support for this centennial organization by joining or upgrading to a Century Club membership for only 27¢ per day.

Century Club Members

**LIFE MEMBER: Those members with an * preceding their name are life members of the Federation. These members paid a life membership when the program was offered.*

Albany
Holly & Steve Beumee/ Bear Creek Cattle Co, Rock River; Barbara Bourret*, Cheyenne; Sharleen & William Castle, Bosler; Julie & Chris Devine, Laramie; John Dougherty, Laramie; Laurie & Randy Dunn/ Bath Brothers Ranch, Laramie; Todd Hummel/ Hummel Cattle Co, Laramie; Ronda & Ron Harding, Laramie; Patricia & Zachary Jacobsen, Laramie; Amanda & Justin Jeffers, Laramie; Judy & Brett Moline, Laramie; Alice & Carl Shaffer*, Rock River; David Speiser/Biddick Ranch, Buffalo; Samantha & Chris Starks, Laramie; First Interstate Bank, Laramie

Big Horn
John Adams, Lovell; Tim & Lorilyn Beck, Lovell; Cannon Cook, Greybull; Marylou & Lin Doyle/ Doyle Ranches Inc, Hyattville; David Flitner*, Boca Ratan, FL; Jim Geesey, Laramie; Eleanor Hamilton/ Hamilton Ranch Inc, Hyattville; Linda & Keith Hamilton/ Hamilton Ranch Inc*, Hyattville; Patricia & Jeffery Ingram, Greybull; Todd Jones, Hyattville; Frank Kelly/ Kelly Brothers, Greybull; Dorlene & Walter Mayland, Basin; Melanie & Kavin Stockert, Greybull; Zachary Tippetts, Lovell; Paul & Troy Wambeke, Cowley; Mary Whaley, Greybull

Campbell
James & Kyle Bell/ Riata Ranch LLC, Gillette; Brian Collins/ Collins Ranch, Gillette; Renee & Tom Davis/ Davis Land & Livestock, Gillette; Leroy Dike, Gillette; Darci & Marty Edwards, Gillette; Beryl & Darel Geer, Gillette; Amanda & Lexington Geer*, Gillette; Gwendolyn & Gerald Geis, Gillette; Kevin Geis/ 4G Land LLC, Gillette; Matt Avery & Marty Graham/ T Milliron Livestock LLC, Rozet; Wanda & John Groves/ Groves Ranch LLC, Gillette; Colleen & Bobby Harris, Highmore, SD; Stephanie & Kerry Hayden/ Carr Draw LLC*, Gillette; Mary & Kevin Hunter, Moorcroft; Mary & Donald Joslyn, Gillette; Marla Knigge, Gillette; Miranda & Mike Leisy, Gillette; Patricia Litton/ Isenberger Land LLC, Gillette; Verna & Jon Mahle, Gillette; Joel Ohman*, Gillette; Becky & Cody Pearson, Moorcroft; Tyler Pirtz, Gillette; Audrey & Matthew Reno, Gillette; Jeanie & Ronald Schlautmann, Gillette; Mary & Marion Scott, Gillette; Julie & Michael Smith, Gillette; Toni Swartz*, Gillette; Mary & Troy Swartz, Gillette; Ohman's Incorporated, Gillette

Carbon
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Converse
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William Moore/ W-I Moore Ranch Co Inc*, Douglas; Dawn & Tim Pexton, Douglas; Juanita & Dwayne Philo, Douglas; Jewell Reed, Douglas; Karen & Steve Smith/ Smith Sheep Co, Douglas; Max Smylie/ Smylie Animal Clinic, Douglas; Doris & Jerry Sober/ El Shaddai*, Douglas; John Sullivan, Douglas; Robert Vollman, Douglas; Roni & Brady Vollman, Douglas; Connie & John Werner/ JP Werner & Sons Inc, Douglas; Wagonhound L&L, Douglas

Crook
Genell Bagley, Moorcroft ; Diana & Jeffrey Burian, Moorcroft; Raenell Edsall-Taylor & Josh Taylor, Hulett; Colter Ellsbury/Ellsbury Ranch LLC, Sundance; Terry & Larry Fowlkes*, Aladdin; Megan & Josh Franzen, Sundance; Rachael & Zachery Fross, Sheridan; Sherry & Keith Haiar/ Haiar Enterprises Inc, Spearfish, SD; Arthur Hauber, Hulett; Della & Frank Hawken, Sundance; Sharon & Richard Kirksey, Aladdin; Perry Livingston*, Sundance; Chancy & Jordan Miller, Moorcroft; Sally & James Neiman, Hulett; Joni & Albert Neiman, Hulett; Thea Nuckolls, Hulett; Laura & Will Nuckolls*, Hulett; Andrea & Royce Robinson, Moorcroft; Garrett Smith/ Smith Ranch Limited Partnership, Tuscola, TX; Tess & Vance Steedley, Sundance; Pam & Hugh Thompson, Aladdin; Minnie Williams, Moorcroft

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Goshen
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Farm Bureau Federation Gold, Silver and Century Club 2024 Member recognition

CENTURY CLUB MEMBERS ... From Page 8

Hot Springs

Ellen & Jack Baird, Thermopolis; Virginia & John Baird, Thermopolis; Barbara Campbell, Thermopolis; Cindy & James Collins, Thermopolis; Fred & Leanne Correll, Thermopolis; Cindy & David Denton, Thermopolis; Carol Dockery, Thermopolis; Katherine & Joe Gloyd*, Wilmington, DE; Sash & Nick Moline, Thermopolis; Timothy Ramsey, Thermopolis; John Roden, Thermopolis; Carol & Ray Shaffer, Thermopolis; Kathy & Wedg Taylor, Thermopolis; Ginger & Paul Ward, Thermopolis; Pepper & Mark Whitt, Thermopolis; Terry & James Wilson, Thermopolis

Johnson

Michelle & Bill Burke, Buffalo; Tracie & John Curuchet, Kaycee; Helen & Thomas Jones*, Buffalo; Linda & Tom Lulias, Buffalo; Amy Gonzales & Lori Lutterman/ V Bar F Cattle Co, Buffalo; Don & Pete Meike/ Meike Ranch Inc*, Kaycee; Sally & Wallace Ramsbottom, Buffalo; William Ramsbottom, Buffalo; Crystal & Nick Smith, Buffalo; Raei & Troy Stone, Banner; First Northern Bank, Buffalo

Laramie

Rodney Anderson, Pine Bluffs; Sammy & Warren Ayala*, Sheridan; Jeanie & Arnold Bautista, Pine Bluffs; Beth Boreczky, Cheyenne; Sandy & Jeff Bruckner, Pine Bluffs; Dennis Bruns, Pine Bluffs; Becky & John Culek, Pine Bluffs; Donna & James Dolan, Cheyenne; Jonathan Downing, Cheyenne; Kent Drake, Cheyenne; Leonard Fornstrom, Pine Bluffs; Jackelyn & Russell Fornstrom*, Pine Bluffs; Laura & Todd Fornstrom, Pine Bluffs; Andy Gustafson/ Gustafson Farms LLC, Carpenter; Norman Holmes, R Bar H Ranch Inc, Cheyenne; Nikki Malcom & David Kilpatrick*, Cheyenne; Katlyn & Ryan Klinginsmith, Pine Bluffs; Taylen & Shawn Mollett, Cheyenne; James Roberts, Cheyenne; Lorraine & Gary Smith, Carpenter; Marius Wilson/ Quarter Circle Lonetree Ranch*, Cheyenne; Barbara & Roy Young, Burns; Ferguson Ranch, Inc., Cheyenne

Lincoln

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Edward Alvarez, Casper; Toni & Martin Annis, Alcova; Douglas Cooper*, Casper; Nancy & Tim Fenster, Evansville; Aletta & Ryan Grauberger, Casper; John Kossert/ Kossert Brothers, Casper; Stephanie & Scott Kossert, Casper; Henry Limmer, Powder River; Don Pavack, Casper; Katya & Bobby Pickle, Casper; Robert Shook*, Casper; Karen & Herman Strand*, Casper; Kathy & Jack Swanson, Casper; April & Matthew Thornton/ MARN, Inc., Casper; Nicole & Chad Ziehl, Casper

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Mary & Charles Engebretsen, Lost Springs; Jeb Hanson, Lusk; Donna Harvey, Lance Creek; Robyn & Loren Heth, Lusk; Chelsea & John Hunter, Torrington; Catherine & Bradley James, Torrington; Katie & Travis Krein, Lusk; Dana & Dwight Krein, Lusk; Katherine & James Kruse, Lusk; Tom Marshik, Lusk; Amanda & Joseph Martinez, Lusk; Marilyn & Tod Nelson, Lance Creek; Lexie & Thomas Painter, Lusk; Ronda Pfister/ Jack Pfister Ranch, Lusk; Dory & Ronson Pfister, Lusk; Alicia & Rich Robertson, Crawford, NE; Sara & John Sampers, Lusk; John Sampers/ 14 County Tire LLC, Lusk; Carmen & Jimmy Shane, Lusk; Joann & Patrick Wade, Lusk; Carson Wurdeman/ Wurdeman Brothers, Lusk; Lola & Melvin ZumBrunnen, Lusk; Robb Brothers, Lusk

Park

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Sublette

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Harns, Farson; Mary Hay/ Bar X Sheep Company, Rock Springs; Lynn & Keith Hay, Rock Springs; Amanda & Mark Huuffstetler, Farson; Gail & Scott Johnson, Farson; Seth Jones, Farson; James Mines, Farson; Teresa & Ronald Noble, Farson; Trudy Moon-Slagowski & Steve Slagowski, Farson; Dona & David Stauffer, Rock Springs; Mary A Thoman*, Kemmerer; Susan & Richard Thoman, Kemmerer; Roxanne & Andy Tomich, Pinedale; Steven Tomich, Rock Springs; Joseph & Ralynne Tomich, Rock Springs; Kristy Wardell & Mike Freimuth, Kemmerer

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Washakie

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Wyoming Classifieds

ALL CLASSIFIED ADS must be received by the 10th of each month to appear in the next issue. Members may place two (2) complimentary ads, up to 40 words each, per issue. Real estate sales not included. Complimentary ads will run for three issues unless requested otherwise. Non-members may submit an ad at a minimum rate of \$5 per ad (50 cents per word). The appearance of any ad in *Wyoming Agriculture* does not constitute an endorsement or approval of the product or service offered.

TO SUBMIT ADS, send your ad along with your name, phone number and member number or member county to kclark@wyfb.org or mail to WyFB, ATTN: Classifieds, P.O. Box 1348, Laramie, WY 82073.

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BIG HORN

Tony Carter, Basin; James Ray, Shell; Adella Black, Basin; Greta

& Ken Rempel (REG), Greybull; Glendine & Thomas Delaney (REG), Greybull; Nicole & Logan Burningham, Greybull; Kerry Kness, Greybull; Cheryl Johnson, Greybull

CAMPBELL

Amanda & Pat Fiedor (REG), Gillette; Mary & David Shippy, Rozet; Erin & Clint Knutson, Gillette; Kirsten & Howard Troyer, Gillette; Cottonwood Creek Cattle Company (REG), Rozet;

Henry Pruitt, Gillette; Rebecca & Kean Edwards (REG), Gillette

CARBON

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CONVERSE

Hunter Taylor, Glenrock; Orvie Stoneking, Glenrock; Lauryn Vollman (REG), Douglas; Tammy & Corey Larson, Douglas

CROOK

Cassie Watson-Wilson & Jed Wilson (REG), Gillette; Clay Crago/ Crago Land & Livestock (REG), Belle Fourche, SD; Cheryl & Dwayne Schneider, Moorcroft; Michael Woodcock, Hulet; Shawn Lesmeister (REG), Rozet; Shaunte Charlson, Moorcroft; Sharon & Justin Bailey (REG), Moorcroft; Mona & Mark Stenson (REG), Newcastle

FREMONT

Chad Gardner (REG), Riverton; Thomas Hudson (REG), Lander; Stacey & Martin Martinez, Riverton; Jacque & William Stoldt, Pavillion; Tanya King/ Turning Point Farm & Ranch LLC (REG), Riverton; Jeff Greenwell, Lander; William Nuenschwander, Lander; Rosanne & Tim McKinney (REG), Lander

GOSHEN

Jancy Walter, Lingle; Larry Miller (REG), Lingle; Jake Day (REG), Newcastle; Anna & Jonas Hendricks, Torrington; Tim Johnson, Torrington; Beau Thomas (REG), Lingle; Delwin Bass (REG), Torrington; Robert Freeman (REG), Manville; Taylor & Jared Hort (REG), Torrington; Deidre Newman, Torrington; Karen Gering, Torrington; Pamela & Marc Essert (REG), Torrington; Clay Peterson (REG), Torrington; Jan West (REG), Yoder

HOT SPRINGS

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Brown (REG), Thermopolis; Julie & Bill Mathews, Thermopolis; Kati & Cort McCumber (REG), Thermopolis; Glen Thomas, Thermopolis; Heather Love, Thermopolis; Delores & Charles Aragon, Thermopolis; Brad Lofink/ Plowboy Auto Sales (REG), Thermopolis

JOHNSON

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Retain Moisture and Get Rid of Compaction

by PAUL SCHNEIDER JR., AG-USA

Is there anything that farmers can do to retain moisture while at the same time get rid of compaction? Yes! Here is a good way to do just that.

Put fungi to work

When I traveled to Albertville, Alabama to attend the South Poll Cattle Association meeting there, one of the speakers stated that it's best to have a ratio of 50% bacteria to 50% fungi in the soil.

In fact, fungi are key to helping us get rid of compaction and to highly structuring the soil. Structuring the soil magnifies it's ability to retain moisture.

The bad news is, fungi don't normally do well in farm land; they do better in wooded areas, where trees constantly sequester sugars to feed them. So, how can we get fungi to thrive where we farm?

Here are some key points of how to do this.

- Remove toxins and salts that inhibit beneficial fungi.
- Bring nutrient balance to the soil.
- Empower the plant to sequester large amounts of sugars in order to feed mycorrhizal fungi.

MycorrPlus is a product designed to do all of these things, and more. It is a biostimulant that can:

- Help empower microbes to gobble up toxins.
- Help flush salts from the root zone.
- Help balance soil nutrients.
- Help maximize the amount of sugars sequestered by the plant.

In short, MycorrPlus (my-core-plus) can help create a friendly environment in the soil where mycorrhizal fungi and a host of other beneficial microbes can feel at home.

Sequester more carbon, retain more moisture

Aerobic microbes require oxygen and moisture to thrive. With the right help, they will build incredible structure into the soil, one where oxygen circulates freely and moisture is stored efficiently. Because this is the same environment needed by plants, plants love to form a partnership with mycorrhizae.

Can our microbes aerate the soil? Yes! As plants sequester sugars to feed the microbes, the microbes use the residues of these sugars as gums and glues to bind soil particles together, creating air compartments about 1/4" to 3/8" in size (see picture above).

As soil is highly structured, rain will soak deeply into the soil instead of just waterlogging the surface, making it possible for a farmer to more quickly get back into the field.

In the picture, in the soil on the left, can you see the small air pockets?

- ◇ The soil on the left is what soil can look like when it has been highly structured by MycorrPlus. It is aerated and crumbly.
- In the soil on the right, the dirt is tight and clumped together.



- ◇ In highly structured soil, when it rains, water soaks down into the air pockets and is stored until it is needed.
- In tight soil, the top 6" or so of the soil becomes waterlogged and you will see water standing in the field. When the water evaporates, it leaves the soil dry and hard.
- ◇ In the highly structured soil, the microbes have created a moist, oxygen-rich environment where they feel right at home.
- In the soil on the right, aerobic microbes don't have enough air to survive, and anaerobic bacteria dominate the soil.

Plants like to feed the aerobic bacteria and mycorrhizal fungi, because plants have a lot to gain from doing so. MycorrPlus is amazing. By helping switch on carbon sequestration which feeds mycorrhizal fungi and other microbes, the soil will act like a sponge, soaking in rain and irrigation water.

Call toll-free **888-588-3139** and request a free information packet!

Or go to www.AG-USA.net



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MycorrPlus is a liquid bio-stimulant that helps remove compaction by highly structuring the soil. It creates something like an aerobic net in the soil that retains nutrients and moisture. It contains concentrated sea minerals, 20 strains of aerobic bacteria, 4 strains mycorrhizal fungi, fish, kelp, humic acids and molasses. \$22.50 to \$45/acre.

For a wealth of information, visit: www.AG-USA.net, or call 888-588-3139 Mon. - Sat. from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. MST and request a free information packet. Organic? Use MycorrPlus-O.

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Wyoming Farm Bureau Foundation accepting requests for charitable contributions

The Wyoming Farm Bureau Foundation is accepting requests for 2024 Charitable Contributions. WyFB Foundation is able to make charitable contributions each year thanks to a program offered by FBL Financial Group, Inc.

“Wyoming Farm Bureau Foundation is happy to continue the tradition of offering financial assistance to Wyoming’s ag-oriented organizations through our charitable contributions fund,” said WyFB President Todd Fornstrom. “We hope the funds will be a resource that benefits agriculture in the State of Wyoming.”

- Requests will be considered for organizations that meet the following criteria:
- The organization must be classified as 501 (c) (3) by the IRS.
 - The organization must:
 - Serve Farm Bureau members; or
 - Be an industry educational organization that provides direct or indirect benefit to Farm Bureau; or
 - Be a health organization that promotes practices or educational programs beneficial to Farm Bureau.

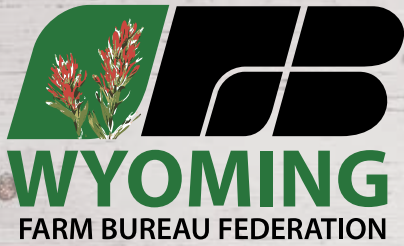
Visit wyfb.org and click on the event tab for the date of May 15, 2024, for request proposal requirements.

Charitable Contribution requests must be submitted in hard copy format and postmarked by May 15, 2024, or received in the WyFB state office by May 15, 2024. Requests can be mailed to:

Wyoming Farm Bureau Foundation
Attn: Dee Brewer, Office Manager
PO Box 1348
Laramie WY 82073

For questions, contact Dee Brewer at 307-721-7719 or dbrewer1@wyfb.org.

The Wyoming Farm Bureau Federation is the state’s largest general agriculture organization. As a grassroots advocacy organization, our members work together to develop agricultural policy, programs, and services to enhance the rural lifestyle of Wyoming. The Wyoming Farm Bureau Foundation supports these efforts. ■



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EMISSIONS INVENTORY... From Page 5

Following agricultural soil management, livestock-related emissions from enteric fermentation and manure management contributed 192 million metric tons and 82 million metric tons, respectively, to total U.S. emissions. These two emission sources represented 46% of agricultural emissions, but only 4.3% of total U.S. emissions. Other agricultural emission sources include methane from rice cultivation at 19 million metric tons, CO2 from urea fertilization at 5.3 million metric tons, CO2 from liming at 3.3 million metric tons, and CO2 from field burning at 0.8 million metric tons. Combined, these remaining categories represented less than 5% of agricultural emissions and 0.4% of U.S. emissions.

Agricultural Productivity and Emission Trends

A comparison of 2022 emissions to 1990 emissions shows U.S. agricultural emissions have increased by 6.4%. However, that's not the full story. Productivity is increasing, as it must to keep feeding a growing global population, and emissions are on the decline relative to this productivity and population increase. Innovation and advancements in technology have allowed farmers and ranchers to increase their productivity while using the same amount of inputs. Compared to 1948, farmers and ranchers are producing nearly three times more in output per unit of input they use, according to USDA-Economic Research Service's estimations of farm output, input and total factor productivity (Agricultural Productivity in the U.S.). Even more impressive, productivity – and production – is rising while agricultural land used is declining. Acreage in operation has de-

clined by 323 million acres since 1950, almost double the size of Texas. This means that farmers and ranchers continue to produce more using fewer resources and the additional decrease in agricultural emissions shows that voluntary, market-based incentives are helping farmers and ranchers accomplish this.

Production of food is important not just for farmers and ranchers, but also for the millions of families in the U.S. and around the world that U.S. agriculture feeds. Agriculture's sustainable intensification through productivity gains, in addition to the adoption of practices that further shrink farmers and ranchers' environmental footprint, has had remarkable results in crop yields and animal nutrition and breeding. It's important to note the public and private agricultural research that drives these gains, which are critical to the sustainability of U.S. agriculture and its contribution to meeting the world's food, clothing and energy needs.

Consider two examples: milk production and red meat production, which includes cattle, swine and sheep raised for meat. Between 1990 and 2022, U.S. dairy farmers have increased milk output by 53%, going from 148 billion pounds to 226 billion pounds to meet increasing global demand for products like cheese, butter and dairy powders. During this same timeframe, emissions from enteric fermentation from dairy cattle per billion pounds of milk produced have dropped 26%, going from 293 million metric tons to 216 million metric tons per billion pounds of milk produced. Similarly, global demand for red meat products continues to rise and farmers have met the challenge in a more efficient manner. In 1990, U.S. farmers produced 39 billion pounds of red meat; this grew 44% to 55.6 billion pounds in 2022. In the same time-

frame, greenhouse gas emissions from enteric fermentation from beef cattle dropped 28%, going from 3.5 million metric tons to 2.5 million metric tons per billion pounds produced. This shows how livestock producers have embraced technological innovation and production practices that increase output while reducing associated emissions.

Not only have producers focused on improvements to production and sustainability, but they have also focused on feeding more families, both at home and abroad. Since 1990, U.S. agricultural emissions have increased by 6.4% while the U.S. population increased 33%, adding over 83 million people in three decades. This means U.S. agriculture has been called upon to feed more people than ever before. With the advancements in innovation and technology, agricultural emissions per capita have declined 20% since 1990. Adjusting for productivity gains within the sector, the 6.4% increase in agricultural emissions drops to a 25% decline since 1990 (latest available productivity data is 2021).

Summary and Policy Conclusions

During 2022, U.S. greenhouse gas emissions from all man-made sources totaled 6.34 billion metric tons in CO2 equivalents, an increase of 0.2% from 2021, according to the methodology used by the Environmental Protection Agency. When taking into consideration carbon trapped in the soils through forestry, grasslands, wetlands and cropland, U.S. greenhouse gas emissions were reduced by 13% to a net emissions level of 5.5 billion metric tons. Emissions related to agriculture totaled 634 million metric tons during 2022, down 1.8% from the previous year.

Based on Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change methodology, U.S. agricultural emissions totaled 593 million metric tons in 2022, a 1.9% decrease compared to 2021. As a percentage of total U.S. emissions, U.S. agriculture continues to be just under 10% of all greenhouse gas emissions, with livestock-related emissions about 3%.

When factoring in productivity and population gains, however, both per unit and per capita agricultural emissions are declining. That means U.S. agriculture is producing more food, fiber and renewable fuel for more people while using fewer resources and emitting fewer greenhouse gases. Additionally, the adoption of conservation practices through voluntary, market-based incentives has helped farmers and ranchers trap 854 million metric tons of carbon in the soil.

With conversations on a new farm bill gaining momentum, it is vital that investments in conservation are maintained to assist farmers in further improving efficiency. Ensuring that the United States leads in agricultural research that allows farmers and ranchers to be part of cutting-edge plant and animal technologies that increase productivity, capture more carbon in the soil and reduce livestock-related emissions even more, among many other environmental benefits, is also vital.

EPA's Inventory of Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Sinks shows that when agriculture is recognized as a partner in reducing greenhouse gas emissions, farmers and ranchers have more opportunities to utilize voluntary, market-based incentives that work to reduce agriculture's environmental footprint while helping farmers and ranchers economically produce the food, fiber and renewable fuel U.S. families, and the world, rely on. ■







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