

# Farm Market Report

## Grain Market Reports

Compiled by USDA Market News Service • Portland

Grains are stated in dollars per bushel or hundredweight (cwt.) except feed grains traded in dollars per ton. National grain report bids are for rail delivery unless truck indicated.

**PORTLAND GRAIN**  
(USDA Market News)  
**Portland**  
**Nov. 25**

PACIFIC NORTHWEST MARKET SUMMARY  
Cash wheat bids for November delivery ended the reporting week on Wednesday, Nov. 23, were mixed compared to Nov. 18 noon bids for November delivery.

December wheat futures ended the reporting week on Wednesday, Nov. 23, mixed as follows compared to Nov. 18 closes: Chicago wheat futures were 1.50 cents lower at \$4.0150, Kansas City wheat futures were 6.75 cents higher at \$4.1550 and Minneapolis wheat futures trended 0.50 of a cent higher at \$5.2725. Chicago December corn futures trended 8.75 cents higher at \$3.5075 and January soybean futures closed 44.75 cents higher at \$10.3425.

Bids for U.S. 1 Soft White Wheat delivered to Portland in unit trains or barges during November for ordinary protein trended 3 to 3.50 cents per bushel higher compared to Nov. 18 prices for the same delivery period at \$4.6150-4.65. Some exporters were not issuing bids for nearby delivery.

White club wheat premiums were 22 to 25 cents per bushel over soft white wheat bids for Nov. 25 and Nov. 18.

One year ago bids for U.S. 1 Soft White Wheat any protein for November delivery by unit trains and barges to Portland were not available and bids for White Club Wheat were also not available.

Forward month bids for soft white wheat ordinary protein were as follows: December \$4.5150-4.75, January and February \$4.76-4.8375 and March \$4.72-4.8375.

One year ago, forward month bids for soft white wheat for any protein were as follows: December not available, January, February and March \$4.9775-5.38.

Bids for U.S. 1 Soft White Wheat guaranteed maximum 10.5 percent protein during November trended 1.50 to 6.50 cents per bushel lower than Nov. 18 prices for the same delivery period at \$4.6150-4.6650. Some exporters were not issuing bids for nearby delivery.

White club wheat premiums for guaranteed maximum 10.5 percent protein soft white wheat were zero to 25 cents per bushel over soft white wheat bids Nov. 25 and Nov. 18.

One year ago bids for U.S. 1 Soft White Wheat guaranteed maximum 10.5 percent protein for November delivery by unit trains and barges to Portland were \$6.60-6.88 and bids for White Club Wheat were \$8.03-8.20. Forward month bids for soft white wheat guaranteed 10.5 percent proteins were as follows: December \$4.5150-4.75, January, February and March \$4.80-4.8875. One year ago, forward month bids for soft white wheat for any protein were as follows: December \$6.60-6.85, January, February and March \$6.5275-6.88.

Bids for 11.5 percent protein U.S. 1 Hard Red Winter Wheat for November delivery were 6.75 cents per bushel higher compared to Nov. 18 noon bids for the same delivery period. Some exporters were not issuing bids for nearby delivery. Bids were as follows: November \$5.50-5.1050, December \$4.9550-5.1050, January

\$4.9050-5.0550, February and March \$5.0850-5.2350.

Bids for non-guaranteed 14.0 percent protein U.S. 1 Dark Northern Spring Wheat for Portland delivery during November were 0.50 of a cent per bushel higher than Nov. 18 noon bids for the same delivery period. Some exporters were not issuing bids for nearby delivery. Bids for non-guaranteed 14 percent protein were as follows: November and December \$6.2725-6.4225, January \$6.2125-6.4125, February and March \$6.2625-6.4425.

**COARSE FEEDING GRAINS**  
Bids for U.S. 2 Yellow Corn delivered full coast Pacific Northwest - BN shuttle trains for November delivery trended 22.75 to 28.75 cents higher from \$4.2075-4.2475. Some exporters were not issuing bids for nearby delivery. Forward month corn bids were as follows: December \$4.2475-4.3075, January \$4.3025-4.3425, February \$4.3525-4.3625, March \$4.3425-4.3625 and April \$4.32-4.36. Bids for U.S. 1 Yellow Soybeans delivered full coast Pacific Northwest - BN shuttle trains for November delivery trended 4.75 to 41.75 cents higher at \$11.0425-11.0925. Some exporters were not issuing bids for nearby delivery. Forward month soybean bids were as follows: December \$11.0425-11.0525, January \$11.0225-11.0725, February \$10.9925-11.0125 and March \$11.07. Bids for U.S. 2 Heavy White Oats for November delivery trended steady at \$3.2650 per bushel.

**PACIFIC NORTHWEST EXPORT NEWS**  
There were 25 grain vessels in Columbia River ports on Wednesday, Nov. 23, with six docked compared to 19 last week with five docked. There were no new confirmed export sales this week from the Commodity Credit Corporation (CCC) of the USDA.

## Livestock Auctions

Note: Several auction reports are missing this week because of the Thanksgiving holiday. Cattle prices in dollars per hundredweight (cwt.) except some replacement animals per pair or head as indicated.

**Idaho**

**CALDWELL**  
(Treasure Valley Livestock)  
**Nov. 11**  
Steers (wt.): 400-500 lbs. \$69; 500-600 lbs. \$64; 600-700 lbs. \$42; 700-800 lbs. \$40; 800 lbs. and up \$40.

Steers (hd.): 200-300 lbs. \$85; 300-400 lbs. \$120; 400-500 lbs. \$270.

Heifers (wt.): 500-600 lbs. \$59; 600-700 lbs. \$92; 700-800 lbs. \$50; 800-900 lbs. \$68; 900-1000 lbs. \$69; 1000-1100 lbs. \$66; 1100-1200 lbs. \$60; 1200 lbs. and up \$64.50.

Heifers (hd.): 100-200 lbs. \$25.  
Bull Calf (wt.): NA.  
Bull Calf (hd.): 100-200 lbs. \$15; 200-300 lbs. \$90.

Cows (wt.): 1300-1400 lbs. \$49.50; 1400-1500 lbs. \$52; 1500-1600 lbs. \$48; 1600-1700 lbs. \$54; 1700-1800 lbs. \$58.50; 1800-1900 lbs. \$49.50.  
Heiferettes (wt.): 1100-1200 lbs. \$62; 1400-1500 lbs. \$75.50; 1600 lbs. and up \$72.  
Holstein Bulls (wt.): NA.

**Oregon**

**MADRAS**  
(Central Oregon Livestock Auction)  
**Nov. 21**

Total head count: 1087.  
Baby calves: NA.  
Steers: NA.  
Bulls: High yield. \$75-79; Mostly \$70-79; Thin-

ner \$65-70.  
Bred cows: Full Mouth Vac. \$1300-1625; Broken Mouth Vac. \$800-1000.  
Cows: Heiferettes NA; high-yield \$58; fleshy cows \$55; medium-yield \$50; low-yield \$45.

**Washington**

**EVERSON**  
(Everson Livestock Market)  
**Everson, Wash.**  
**Nov. 12**

Total receipts: 456.  
Heifers (hd.): 300-400 lbs. \$140-280; 400-500 lbs. \$115; 900-1000 lbs. \$600.  
Steers (hd.): Under 300 lbs. \$75-155.  
Steers (cwt.): 300-400 lbs. \$51-115; 400-500 lbs. \$35-118; 500-600 lbs. \$45-122; 600-700 lbs. \$48-114; 700-800 lbs. \$44-114; 800-900 lbs. \$64-110; 900-1000 lbs. \$60-88; 1000-1100 lbs.

\$82-86; 1100-1300 lbs. \$60-85; 1300-1500 lbs. \$66-72; 1500-2000 lbs. \$30-60.

Bulls (cwt.): 400-500 lbs. \$86-101; 500-600 lbs. \$66-101; 600-700 lbs. \$79-94; 800-900 lbs. \$60; 1300-1500 lbs. \$65-66; 1500-2000 lbs. \$71-50; 2000-2500 lbs. \$77-50.

Stags (cwt.): 600-700 lbs. \$71-80; 700-800 lbs. \$76; 800-900 lbs. \$89.

Slaughter cows: \$45-90.  
Heifers (cwt.): 300-400 lbs. \$61-111; 400-500 lbs. \$45-112; 500-600 lbs. \$59-104; 600-700 lbs. \$60-104; 700-800 lbs. \$47-101; 800-900 lbs. \$43-89; 900-1000 lbs. \$48-80; 1000-1100 lbs. \$61; 1300-1500 lbs. \$51.

Bred Cows: (cwt.) 800-900 lbs. \$800; 900-1000 lbs. \$975; 1000-1100 lbs. \$750-1125; 1100-1300 lbs. \$600-1100; 1300-1500 lbs. \$800-1150; 1500-2000 lbs. \$900-1175.

# California targets dairies to combat global warming

By **TERENCE CHEA**  
Associated Press

GALT, Calif. (AP) — California is taking its fight against global warming to the farm. The nation's leading agricultural state is now targeting greenhouse gases produced by dairy cows and other livestock.

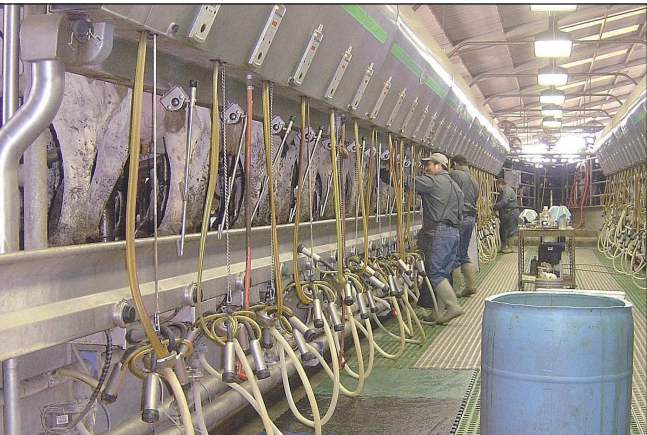
Despite strong opposition from farmers, Gov. Jerry Brown signed legislation in September that for the first time regulates heat-trapping gases from livestock operations and landfills.

Cattle and other farm animals are major sources of methane, a greenhouse gas many times more potent than carbon dioxide as a heat-trapping gas. Methane is released when they belch, pass gas and make manure.

“If we can reduce emissions of methane, we can really help to slow global warming,” said Ryan McCarthy, a science advisor for the California Air Resources Board, which is drawing up rules to implement the new law.

Livestock are responsible for 14.5 percent of human-induced greenhouse gas emissions, with beef and dairy production accounting for the bulk of it, according to a 2013 United Nations report.

Since the passage of its landmark global warming law



Capital Press File

The VanderWoude Dairy near Merced, Calif. Despite strong opposition from farmers, Gov. Jerry Brown signed legislation in September that for the first time regulates heat-trapping gases from livestock operations and landfills.

in 2006, California has been reducing carbon emissions from cars, trucks, homes and factories, while boosting production of renewable energy.

In the nation's largest milk-producing state, the new law requires dairies and other livestock operations to reduce methane emissions 40 percent below 2013 levels by 2030. State officials are developing the regulations, which take effect in 2024.

“We expect that this package ... and everything we’re doing on climate, does show an effective model forward for others,” McCarthy said.

But dairy farmers say the new regulations will drive up costs when they’re already

struggling with five years of drought, low milk prices and rising labor costs. They’re also concerned about a newly signed law that will boost overtime pay for farmworkers.

“It just makes it more challenging. We’re continuing to lose dairies. Dairies are moving out of state to places where these costs don’t exist,” said Paul Sousa, director of environmental services for Western United Dairymen.

The dairy industry could be forced to move production to states and countries with fewer regulations, leading to higher emissions globally, Sousa said.

“We think it’s very foolish for the state of California to be

taking this position,” said Rob Vandenheuvel, general manager for the Milk Producers Council. “A single state like California is not going to make a meaningful impact on the climate.”

Regulators are looking for ways to reduce so-called enteric emissions — methane from the bodily functions of cows. That could eventually require changes to what cattle eat.

But the biggest target is dairy manure, which accounts for about a quarter of the state’s methane emissions.

State regulators want more farmers to reduce emissions with methane digesters, which capture methane from manure in large storage tanks and convert the gas into electricity.

The state has set aside \$50 million to help dairies set up digesters, but farmers say that’s not nearly enough to equip the state’s roughly 1,500 dairies.

New Hope Dairy, which has 1,500 cows in Sacramento County, installed a \$4 million methane digester in 2013, thanks to state grants and a partnership with the local utility, which operates the system to generate renewable power for the grid.

But co-owner Arlin Van Groningen, a third-generation farmer, says he couldn’t afford one if he had to buy and run it himself.

## Potato Market Reports

Compiled by North American Potato Market News and USDA

Agricultural Market Service

Prices are weekly averages of daily prices. All prices are in dollars per hundredweight (cwt.). FWA is a weighted average of shipping point prices or common packs in each area. Weights differ by area. GRI is the Grower Returns Index for each individual area.

| FRESH RUSSET POTATO MARKET REPORT<br>(North American Potato Market News)<br>(USDA Market News)<br>Nov. 26                                        |        |        |        |         |     |             |     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|--------|--------|---------|-----|-------------|-----|
| Market commentary: Packers in the Columbia Basin and Colorado managed to boost prices on Russet Count cartons during the holiday-shortened week. |        |        |        |         |     |             |     |
| SHIPPING AREA                                                                                                                                    |        |        |        |         |     |             |     |
| FWA                                                                                                                                              | Chg    | GRI    | Chg    | 70 ct   | Chg | 10 lb. Film | Chg |
| IDAHO BURBANKS                                                                                                                                   |        |        |        |         |     |             |     |
| \$11.78                                                                                                                                          | \$0    | \$4.82 | \$0    | \$13.50 | \$0 | \$10        | \$0 |
| IDAHO NORKOTAHS                                                                                                                                  |        |        |        |         |     |             |     |
| \$10.66                                                                                                                                          | \$0    | \$4.06 | \$0    | \$12    | \$0 | \$10        | \$0 |
| COLUMBIA BASIN                                                                                                                                   |        |        |        |         |     |             |     |
| \$11.93                                                                                                                                          | \$0.50 | \$4.92 | \$0.31 | \$13.50 | \$0 | \$9         | \$0 |

## California Egg Reports

Compiled by USDA Market News Service • Des Moines

Shell egg marketer's benchmark price for negotiated egg sales of USDA Grade AA and Grade AA in cartons, cents per dozen. This price does not reflect discounts or other contract terms.

| DAILY CALIFORNIA SHELL EGGS<br>(USDA Market News)<br>Des Moines, Iowa<br>Nov. 25                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |        |             |         |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------|-------------|---------|
| Benchmark prices are steady. Asking prices for next week are unchanged on all sizes. Trade sentiment is steady. Demand is fairly good to mostly good. Supplies are moderate to closely balanced. Offerings are moderate to instances heavy. Market activity is slow to moderate. Small benchmark price 59 cents. |        |             |         |
| Size                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Range  | Size        | Range   |
| Jumbo                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 115    | Extra large | 114     |
| Large                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 110    | Medium      | 79      |
| SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |        |             |         |
| Prices to retailers, sales to volume buyers, USDA Grade AA and Grade AA, white eggs in cartons, delivered store door.                                                                                                                                                                                            |        |             |         |
| Size                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Range  | Size        | Range   |
| Jumbo                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 87-97  | Extra large | 100-104 |
| Large                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 92-101 | Medium      | 59-71   |

## Cattle Market Reports

Compiled by USDA Market News Service • Oklahoma City-Des

Moines-St. Joseph, Mo.-Moses Lake, Wash.

Cattle prices in dollars per hundredweight (cwt.) except some replacement animals per pair Oregon head as indicated.

**NATIONAL FEEDER AND STOCKER CATTLE**  
(Federal-State Market News)  
**St. Joseph, Mo.**

**Nov. 25**  
**This week** **Last week** **Last year**

146,100 362,100 126,900  
Compared to Nov. 18: Feeder cattle and calf markets were not fully tested due to limited marketing during the Thanksgiving holiday week.

Some major auctions held specially on Nov. 21 and Nov. 22 with calves selling steady to \$9 higher with some instances \$17 higher on lightweight calves under 550 lbs. suitable for wheat grazing. Yearlings sold \$2 to \$7 higher.

Direct trade on a light test was mostly steady on short holiday week sales. All fall, the entire beef complex has been disappointing except for the past couple weeks. Feeder and fed cattle prices have now rebounded to be at or above September levels.

Demand was high at Green City, Mo., on Nov. 22 for their annual Thanksgiving Yearling Special with over 3,000 head of top-quality yearlings on offer. An oversized load of 725 lb. steers sold at \$144.25 and a full load of 818 lb. steers sold at \$139.

At the Oklahoma National Stockyards on Nov. 21, more than 6,000 head sold — with yearling steers and heifers \$3 to \$7 higher and calves as much as \$17 higher.

As Thanksgiving Eve brought a slowdown to feeder cattle receipts, the fed cattle trade heated up with near 100,000 selling in the 5-Area with

live sales \$2 to \$4 higher at mostly \$112, and dressed sales steady to \$5 higher at \$170-175.

The CME cattle complex has responded on Nov. 25 with light trading but at higher levels.

On Nov. 22 the USDA's Cold Storage Report was released showing total red meat supplies in freezers were down 3 percent from the previous month but up 1 percent from last year at 1.172 billion lbs.

Total red meat supplies set another record high for the month of October after 2015's record setting month.

Total beef stocks in freezers were above 532 million lbs., up 3 percent from last month and up 5 percent from last year.

Frozen pork supplies were near 598.0 million lbs., which was down 7 percent from last month but and 1 percent from last year.

Chicken in cold storage was 10 percent higher than year-ago totals while turkey production was 13 percent higher than last year due to avian bird flu in 2015.

Choice Boxed-beef values continue to move up this week to close \$1 higher on Nov. 25 at \$187.64. Auction volume included 44 percent weighing over 600 lbs. and 41 percent heifers.

**AUCTIONS**

**This week** **Last week** **Last year**  
95,900 297,600 79,700  
**DIRECT**

**This week** **Last week** **Last year**  
27,500 62,700 19,600  
**SOUTHWEST**  
(Arizona-California-Nevada)

700. No cattle over 600 lbs. No heifers. Holsteins: Large 3 325 lbs. \$102 December Del; 325 lbs. \$98 February Del.

## Dairy Report

Compiled by USDA Market News Service • Madison, Wis.

**WESTERN FLUID MILK AND CREAM REVIEW**  
(USDA Market News)  
**Madison, Wis.**  
**Nov. 22**

In California, bottled milk orders from educational institutions are lower as most schools were closed during the Thanksgiving holiday break.

However, retail requests were up as bottlers were filling last-minute grocery shopping.

After the middle of the week, milk volumes moved into balancing plants were heavier.

According to the DMN National Retail Report-Dairy for the week of Nov. 18-24, the national weighted average advertised price for one gallon of milk is \$2.61. The weighted average regional price in the Southwest is \$1.99.

Class II processors requested lower condensed skim supplies due to the shortened week operational schedules. Consequently, higher condensed skim volumes are clearing into NDM processing.

Milk production in the Pacific Northwest is seasonally strong. Bottling demand is solid; however, some additional milk found its way to manufactured dairy products over the Thanksgiving holiday. Milk supplies are readily available for cheese manufacturing.

In the mountain states of Idaho, Colorado and Utah, milk production is following typical seasonal patterns. Milk is readily available for most processing needs.

Idaho and Colorado dairy farms have added cow numbers and the new production continues to find homes at dairy processing facilities nearby. Many Class II pulled lower cream volumes during the holiday-shortened processing week. As a result, cream supplies are more available in the market and premiums are lower.

This week, multiples for all classes are down, ranging from 1.05 to 1.24.

The NASS Milk Production report noted October 2016 milk production in the 23 selected states was 16.5 billion pounds, 2.7 percent above a year ago. Milk cows in the 23 selected states totaled 8.67 million head, 31,000 head more than a year ago.

The following table shows Western states included in the report and the monthly milk production changes compared to a year ago:

| OCTOBER 2016 MILK PRODUCTION<br>(Million lbs.) |       |  | % change |
|------------------------------------------------|-------|--|----------|
| California                                     | 3,302 |  | +1.8     |
| Idaho                                          | 1,243 |  | +4.0     |
| Oregon                                         | 212   |  | ...      |
| Washington                                     | 554   |  | +1.3     |

# Retired couple returns to Indiana to start their own farm

By **CAROL KUGLER**  
The Herald-Times

SPENCER, Ind. (AP) — When most people retire, they expect to relax a little, take on fewer daily chores and have fewer responsibilities.

That's not what happened for Jerry and Paula Perron, owners of Bittersweet Farm in Owen County. The couple moved to the area from Denver, Colo., after owning and operating the Brain Workout Center for 17 years.

“When I turned 75, I told Paula, I’m done,” Jerry told The (Bloomington) Herald-Times recently while walking in the grassy fields of the 17-acre farm. That was in 2011, when the couple moved to Indiana onto the farm they say is “a little bit of heaven on Earth.”

Jerry considers himself a Midwesterner even though he spent time in Colorado. The couple actually met while living in Sherman, Texas, and raised their children in Elkhart before moving to Colorado. They knew they would eventually return to the Midwest

and decided to try farming for the first time in their lives.

Bittersweet Farm has chickens, turkeys, pigs and dogs, but they’re not the usual types. Visitors will be welcomed to the farm by their white, shaggy-haired dog Jackie. She’s a Maremma sheepdog, a livestock guard dog indigenous to central Italy and known for protecting sheep from wolves. Jackie protects the Perrons’ hogs and fowl from coyotes.

The Perrons first raised Finn sheep along with guinea fowl and heritage turkeys. Currently, they don’t have any sheep on their farm because the breed they had were high maintenance. Because they enjoyed raising sheep, they are now looking at a couple of heritage species that would be hardier.

The couple now raise heritage hogs, both American guinea and mulefoot hogs. The American guinea hogs were once on the critical list because there were fewer than 100 guinea hogs in the United States. But enough people have begun raising the hogs

that now the species is no longer in danger of disappearing.

“There are a lot more (American guinea hogs) than there were just five years ago,” Jerry said. He’s quick to point out that the breed, which came to the U.S. from West Africa in the 1800s, almost disappeared during the Civil War, when soldiers from both sides ate and killed so many of the hogs.

The Perrons first purchased Fred, Ethel and Emma from a farm in northern Indiana. “They rode in my car in a little crate,” Paula said while looking out across the pasture at them.

Another hog, Julie the Mulefoot, is another breed, a mulefoot hog, so named because its feet are one hoof, not the split, cloven hoof of most pigs. She’s a little “shy,” according to her owners, and is currently nursing seven piglets after she was bred to an American guinea hog. All the piglets are also mulefoot, and follow their mother through the woods on one side of the Perrons’ property.

In a nearby pasture,

6-week-old piglets lie in fresh straw as sun shines down on them. “Their personalities are wonderful,” Paula said, surveying the brood from the other side of a fence. “The guinea hogs love to have their bellies rubbed, and behind their ears, too.”

“Hello, girls,” Paula calls out to four black pigs in another part of the pasture. Three American guinea and one mulefoot-cross pigs that approach the couple, sniffing and giving soft grunts as a welcome. Each one touches noses with Jackie the dog, who sniffs each back. The couple haven’t named these hogs, because they are going to be sold for meat.

Traveling to another pasture, the Perrons look out over the barrows, or castrated male pigs, and their American guinea boars. The barrows and boars are munching on grass tufts in the pasture. Seeing the Perrons, most walk over toward the fence, emitting grunts of welcome. “Hello, Phineas,” Paula calls to the main boar, still eating grass a distance away.

When the barrows reach between 215 and 250 pounds, they are ready for market. “We sell some to the local restaurants,” Jerry says.

“We also sell them to private individuals,” Paula adds. Recently, they had a chef from a local restaurant come out to pick his next hog, who will soon be large enough for market.

The meat of the American guinea hog is different from what most people purchase in the grocery store. The meat is red and has a different taste since the hogs are grass-fed. Because the hogs are active, the meat is also well marbled. “The meat just melts in your mouth,” Paula said.

American guinea hogs are known as lard hogs and that, according to Paula, is why they were popular in the 1800s. She renders lard and uses it to make pie crusts.

While the Perrons freely approach most of their livestock, they are a little cautious with their barrows and boar. They are more careful after Jerry was attacked by the boar named Fred. “His

first attack was his head on my shin bone,” Jerry recalled. Jerry quickly put a board between the boar and himself. “We did a dance for about 10 or 15 minutes while Paula got some food to distract him,” he explained. That was the end for Fred.

Now Phineas is the principal boar on the farm. In the fall and the spring, he mates with certain females, spending time in the girls’ pastures. “The ladies don’t let him eat so much,” Paula said. “The boys let him.” So, once Phineas has completed his task, he’s back in