



Josh Knight <josh@farmdirection.com>

GOOD MORNING: Van Trump Report 6-18-19

1 message

The Van Trump Report <reply@vantrumpreport-email.com>

Tue, Jun 18, 2019 at 5:31 AM

Reply-To: Jordan <reply-febc16797d6d027c-1142_HTML-68584704-100003450-8@vantrumpreport-email.com>

To: josh@farmdirection.com

To view this email as a web page, go [here](#).

"Authenticity is the alignment of head, mouth, heart, and feet ~thinking, saying, feeling, and doing the same thing...consistently. This builds trust, and followers love leaders they can trust." - **Lance Secretan**

Tuesday, June 18, 2019[Printable Copy](#) or [Audio Version](#)

Morning Summary: Traders are keeping a close eye on the Middle East. Iran released a statement that it would go above the agreed upon cap on its stockpile of enriched uranium in the next 10 days, which means they will breach the limits of the 2015 Nuclear Pact. The U.S. followed by saying it would send an additional +1,000 troops to the Middle East in response to "hostile behavior". Keep in mind, we already have more than 20,000 U.S. troops in Afghanistan, Iraq and Syria, and

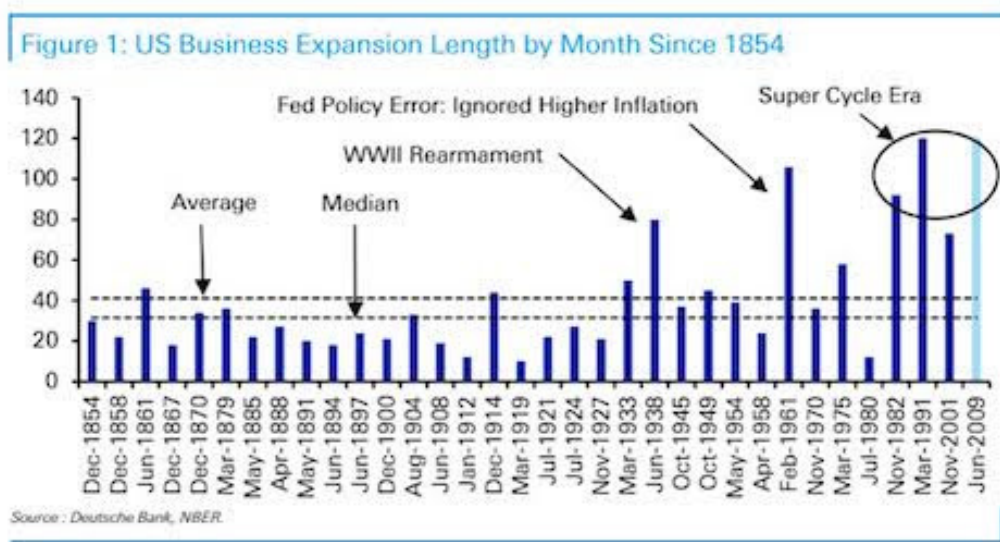
last month the Pentagon deployed an aircraft carrier, a few warships, bombers and additional forces to counter what officials are saying is a growing threat from Iran. U.S. military officials said the additional troops will help provide security and intelligence in the region amid heightened tensions over a series of attacks on oil tankers in the Gulf of Oman. Slice the headlines however you like, tension in the Middle East are clearly escalating. Here at home, traders are keeping a close eye on the Fed's two-day FOMC meeting. There will be an announcement by the Fed tomorrow at around 1:00pm CST, followed by a press conference with Fed Chair Jerome Powell. Most inside the trade are thinking the Fed will keep rates "unchanged". The odds seems to be about 80% thinking "unchanged" and about 15% to 20% thinking a slight rate cut. I am of the belief the Fed still wants to see more data and will pause. I'm also thinking the Fed wants to really see if we can gain any traction with the Chinese in regards to the current trade disputes. Meaning they are wanting to see if anything can come from the upcoming G20 meeting scheduled for the end of the month in Japan. Perhaps President Trump and Chinese leader Xi can take steps in the right direction? If no headways is made in regards to trade with the Chinese, there are some who believe the Fed could cut rates two or perhaps three times in 2019. I'm of the belief the Fed's more dovish tone is an effort to help keep a lid on the U.S. dollar and to help the economy while powers in Washington try and negotiate a deal. The Chinese central bank has been adding stimulus and trying to help the Chinese leaders during this process, so I suspect members of the Fed are feeling some type of similar duty of responsibility. There are some sources who are starting to think the Fed could hold off until the September meeting, and rather than making a standard quarter point cut, they make a more aggressive half point cut in rates. Then perhaps follow up with another cut in the October or December meeting, depending on how trade negotiations play-out. Looking ahead, many insiders are saying the stock market is entering its two most important weeks of the year. We have the Fed's meeting this week, followed next week by the OPEC meeting and the highly anticipated G20 summit. Remember, the three most popular stock market headlines this year have revolved around Fed policy, Chinese trade, and tensions in the Middle East. All three will be in play these next two weeks so stay buckled in.

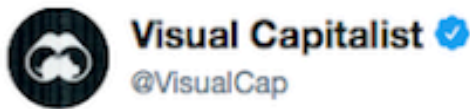
Goldman Sounding Alarm on Tech Stocks! *Is it time to start scaling out of high-*

growth tech stocks? Goldman Sachs warned on the subject, saying the double whammy of sky-high valuation and heightened talk of regulation is becoming a "hazard" to the group. Goldman Sachs is saying the valuation for growth stocks is high and software in particular now carries the highest multiples since the tech bubble. "Rising market concentration and the political landscape suggest that regulatory risk will persist and could eventually weigh on company fundamentals," says David Kostin, Goldman's chief U.S. equity strategist. Lets keep in mind the following: Microsoft makes up 4.20% of the S&P 500 and is up +30% YTD; Apple 3.56% of the S&P 500 and up +22% YTD; Amazon 3.19% of the S&P 500 and up +25% YTD; Google 2.72% of the S&P 500 and up +5% YTD; Facebook 1.79% of the S&P 500 and up +44% YTD. In other words, if these big tech stocks tumble they could certainly do damage to the overall stock market. Read more at [CNBC](#)

Do Anti-Recession Steps Pose Risks? *The 10-year old economic expansion will set a record next month by becoming the longest ever. Great news, right? Maybe not, say economists at Deutsche Bank. Prolonged expansions have become the norm since the early 1970s, when the tight link between the dollar and gold was broken, and the last four expansions are among the six longest in U.S. history. Why so? Freed from the constraints of gold-backed currency, governments and central banks have grown far more aggressive in combating downturns. Think about it. they've boosted spending, slashed interest rates or taken other unorthodox steps to stimulate the economy. Keep in mind, there's also been a cost, according to Deutsche Bank economists Jim Reid and Craig Nicol in a lengthy report. "This policy flexibility and longer business cycle era has led to higher structural budget deficits, higher private sector and government debt, lower and lower interest rates, negative real yields, inflated financial asset valuations, much lower defaults (ultra cheap funding), less creative destruction, and a financial system that is prone to crises. Though the two paint a grim picture, there is a silver lining... of sorts. Reid and Nicol don't see danger right over the horizon, rather they say the situation can go on until the current era of low inflation gives way to rising prices or leading countries like the U.S. run into a debt-funding crisis. It could be several years or even much longer before that*

happens. Read more details [HERE](#).

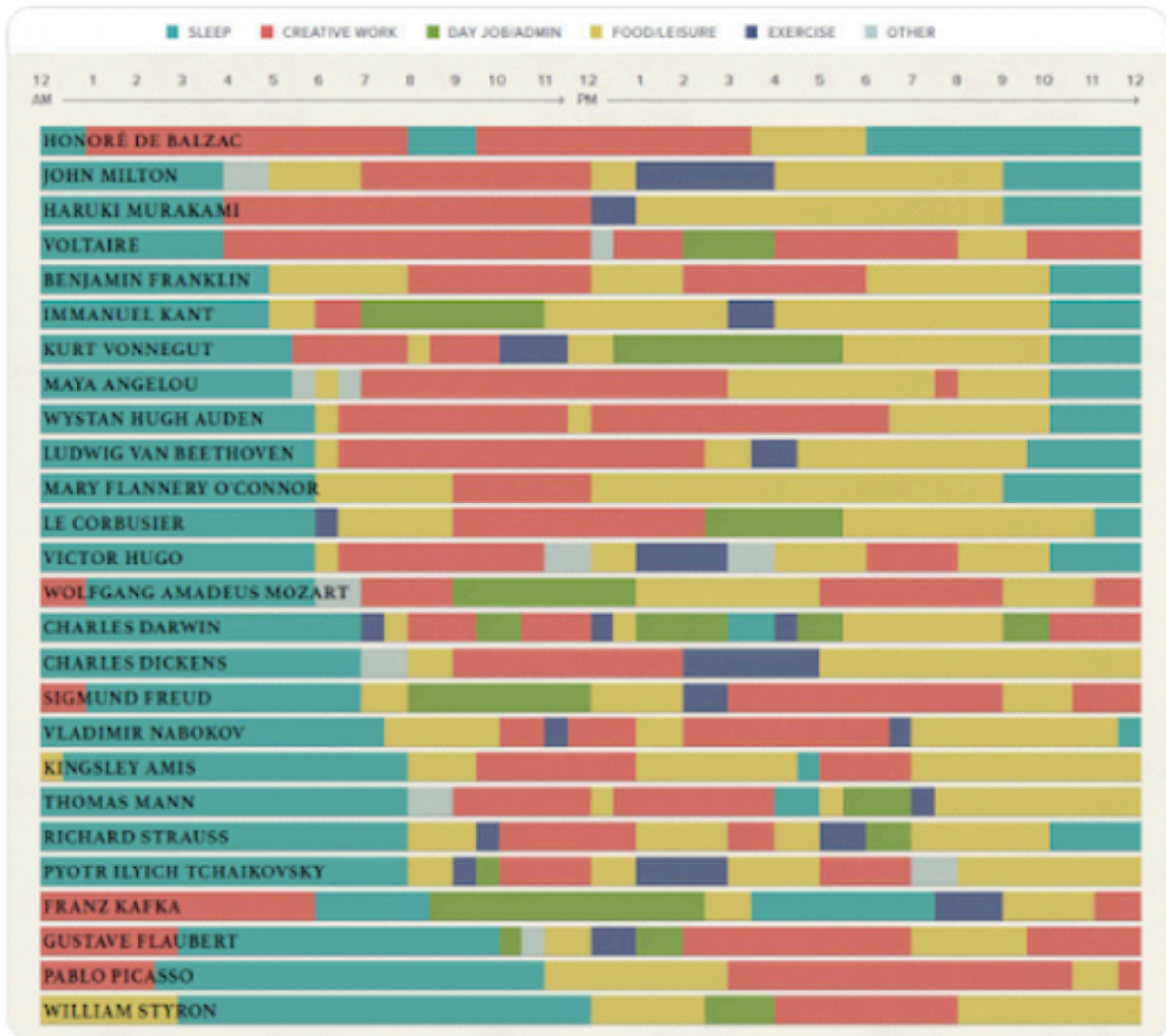




Following

Visualizing the Daily Routines of Famous Creative People 🎨

visualcapitalist.com/visualizing-th...



**The Glenn E. Randall**

@fama_il

Following



A buddy of mine called and said he needed some help getting his planter unstuck. I went out to look and realized he was screwed. I flew my drone over the site to survey it and told him he was on his own and walked away. #plant19 @TheChadColby @MachineryPete @FarmJournal





Maranda Klaver
@mklaver25

Following



Seems about right lol #Plant19

Planting in April



Planting in June



fb.com/photographersmemes



Steve VanDyke
@StevoFromSD

Following



That's a good reminder. #plant19





Super 70s Sports
@Super70sSports

Following



51-year-old Gordie Howe faces off against 18-year-old Wayne Gretzky.





Weird History
@WeirdHistoryPix

Following



Zebra-drawn carriage parked outside Buckingham Palace in London, c.1900



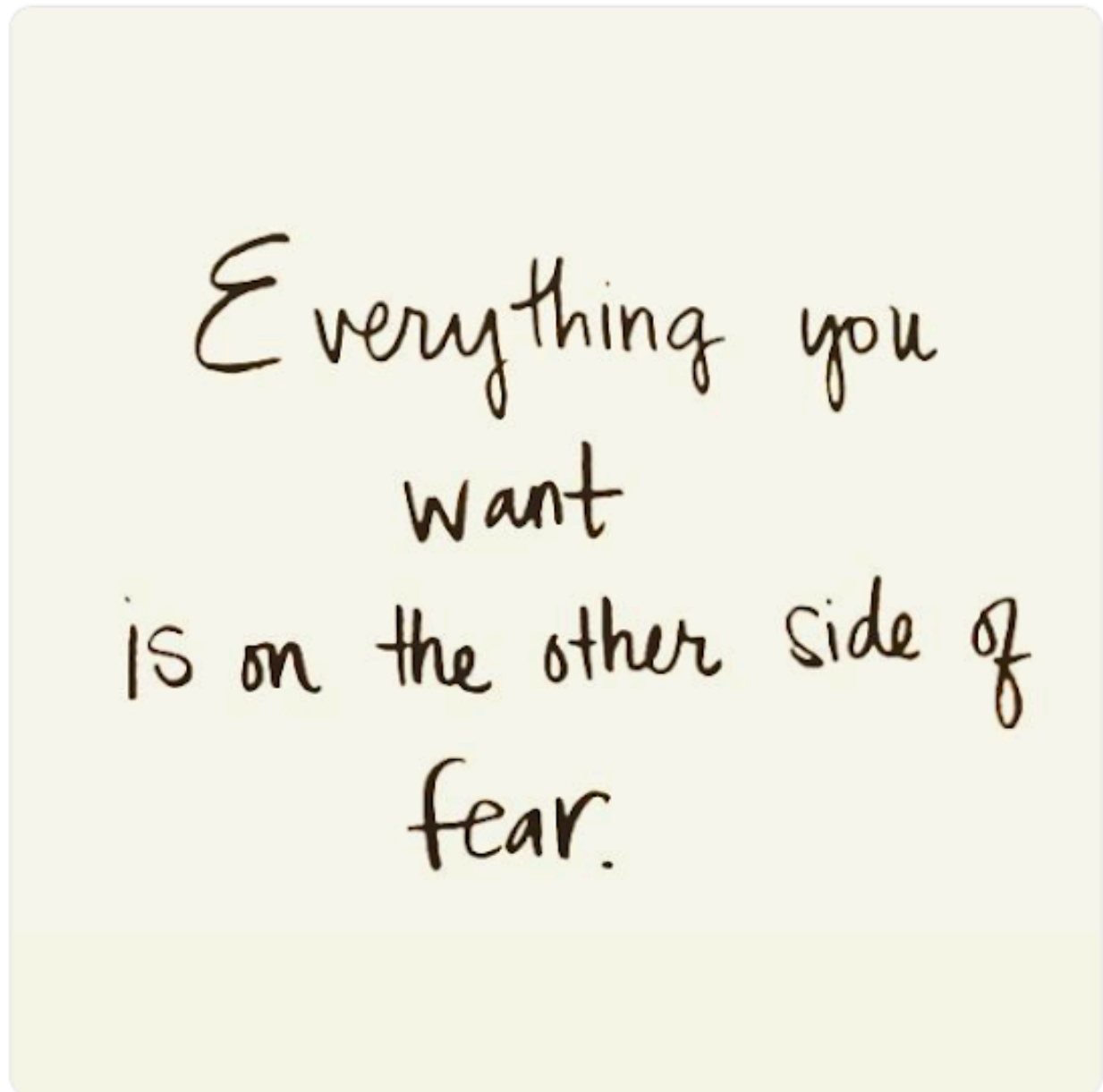
**Motivational Quotes**

@DavidRoads

Following

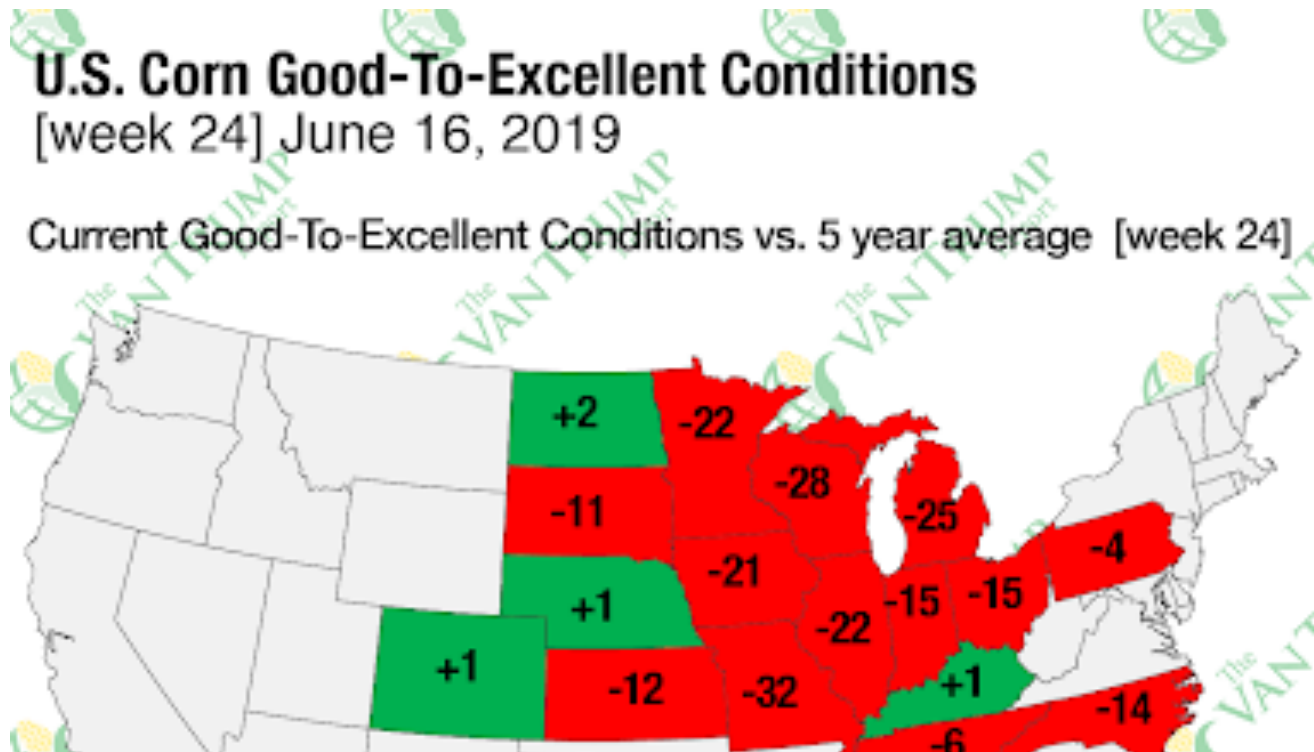


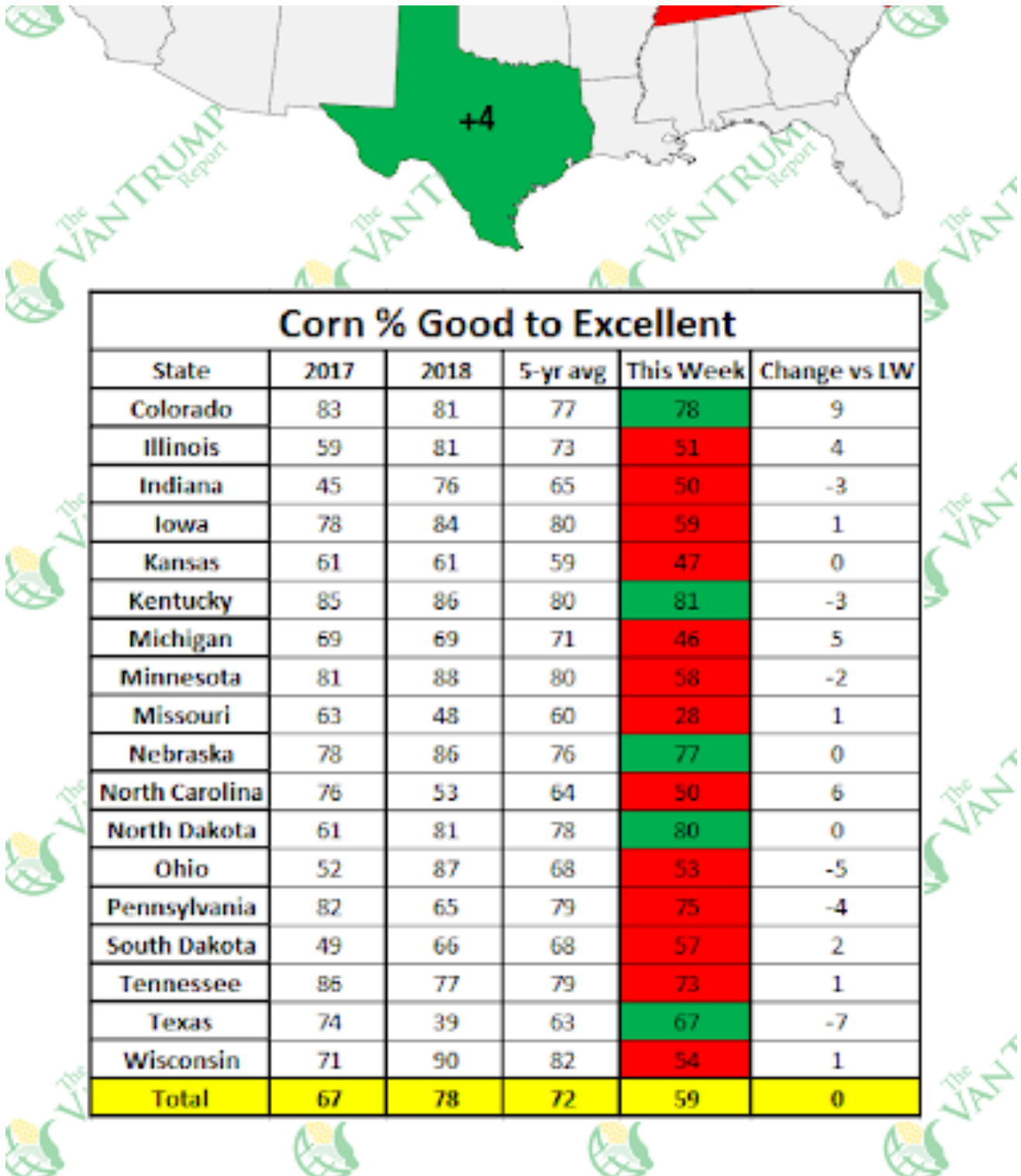
Ignore the fear and push on.



Corn traders are digesting the latest USDA weekly crop progress data. The USDA estimates 92% of the U.S. corn crop is planted vs. 83% last week vs. the 5-year average of 100%. States still running the furthest behind in planting include: Ohio still 32% unplanted; South Dakota still 22% unplanted; Indiana and Michigan each still 16% unplanted; Wisconsin 13% unplanted; Illinois 12% unplanted; Missouri 11% unplanted. The USDA also estimated roughly 79% of the U.S. corn crop is

"emerged" vs. the 5-year average of 97% by this date. States with the crop running the furthest behind are Michigan and Ohio -45%; South Dakota -41%; Indiana -34%; Wisconsin -28%; Illinois -25%; Missouri -18%; Kansas -13%; Iowa and Minnesota -11%; Nebraska and North Dakota -9%. The weekly crop condition estimate is left "unchanged" at 59% rated "Good-to-Excellent" vs. 78% rated "Good-to-Excellent" the previous. From a spec perspective, I remain wildly bullish, but certainly understand and respect the trades need to fully test price discovery. Some bulls have decided to bank profits and move to the sideline as the planting headlines move into the rearview mirror. Bears continue to point towards demand uncertainties and talk of more intense demand destruction should prices continue to work higher. I'm trying to tune out a lot of the noise, believing the longer-term bullish story is still fully intact. The market might have to pull back a bit before we see the next wave of bullish interest? If we happen to get a significant setback, I will be looking for opportunities to add a bit more length. As a producer, I will be using the deeper breaks in price to look at strategies that can provide re-ownership. I still see this as a very exciting market moving forward. Be careful allowing yourself to get too immersed in the headlines, you won't be able to see the forest for the trees. I'm still forecasting mid to late-August as a better time to reevaluate this bullish bounce. Staying bullish and extremely patient with this market. Holding the reins very loosely...





U.S. Corn Acres Left to Plant [week 24]

State	Acres	Planted	Not Planted	% Planted
Illinois	11,200,000	9,856,000	1,344,000	88%
South Dakota	6,000,000	4,680,000	1,320,000	78%
Ohio	3,500,000	2,380,000	1,120,000	68%
Indiana	5,500,000	4,620,000	880,000	84%
Wisconsin	4,050,000	3,523,500	526,500	87%
Missouri	3,500,000	3,115,000	385,000	89%
Michigan	2,350,000	1,974,000	376,000	84%
Iowa	13,600,000	13,328,000	272,000	98%
Kansas	5,700,000	5,472,000	228,000	96%
Nebraska	9,700,000	9,506,000	194,000	98%
Colorado	1,430,000	1,329,900	100,100	93%
Pennsylvania	1,370,000	1,287,800	82,200	94%
North Dakota	4,050,000	3,969,000	81,000	98%
Minnesota	8,000,000	7,920,000	80,000	99%
Kentucky	1,430,000	1,387,100	42,900	97%
North Carolina	970,000	970,000	-	100%
Tennessee	850,000	850,000	-	100%
Texas	2,150,000	2,150,000	-	100%
Total	85,350,000	78,522,000	6,828,000	92%

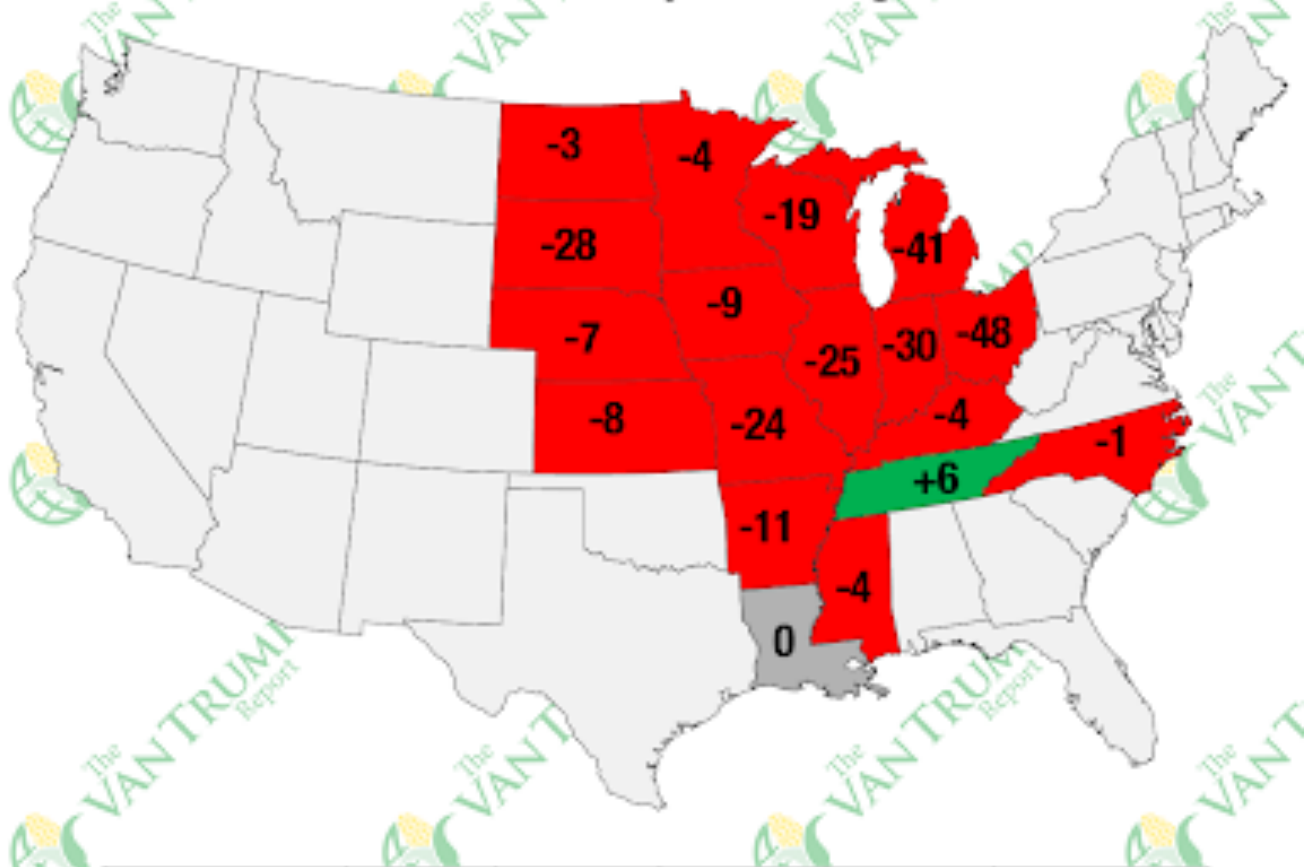
Soybean traders are digesting the latest USDA planting progress estimate, which show 77% of the U.S. crop is now planted vs. the 5-year average of 93% by this date. The USDA is also estimating 55% of the U.S. soybean crop is now "emerged" vs. the 5-year historical pace of 84% emerged by this date. Look for the USDA to release crop-condition ratings next week. Bulls are pointing to ongoing problems in big production states like Illinois, Indiana, Missouri and Ohio, combined the four states still have over +10 million unplanted soybean acres. There's also uncertainties surrounding "re-plant" acres with all of the recent rains and flooding and the upcoming rains in the forecast the next few days. As a producer, I want to stay patient. As a spec, I'm still on the sideline with a bullish tilt, waiting for some type of pullback before jumping in with both feet. Unfortunately, I'm afraid this is the logical approach and the same thing everyone else is waiting on. Which

ultimately will make it the wrong move. But since I have a large bullish position in corn, I'm hesitant and worried that I could be talking myself into the bullish side of soybeans. When I start debating and second-guessing myself it's my signal to simply sit on the sideline. Hence my current choice to do nothing. I could go on-and-on about the balance sheet, Chinese trade uncertainties, AFS, South American exports, etc... but we've heard enough surrounding those headlines. I suspect the market is going to stay concerned with the U.S. crop and the price swings could be extreme as the trade tries to determine future value.







U.S. Soybean Planted Pace

[week 24] June 16, 2019

Current Planted Pace vs. 5 year average for week 24



Soybeans % Planted Pace					
State	2017	2018	5-yr avg	This Week	Change vs LW
Arkansas	95	98	90	79	13
Illinois	97	100	95	70	21
Indiana	96	98	94	64	22

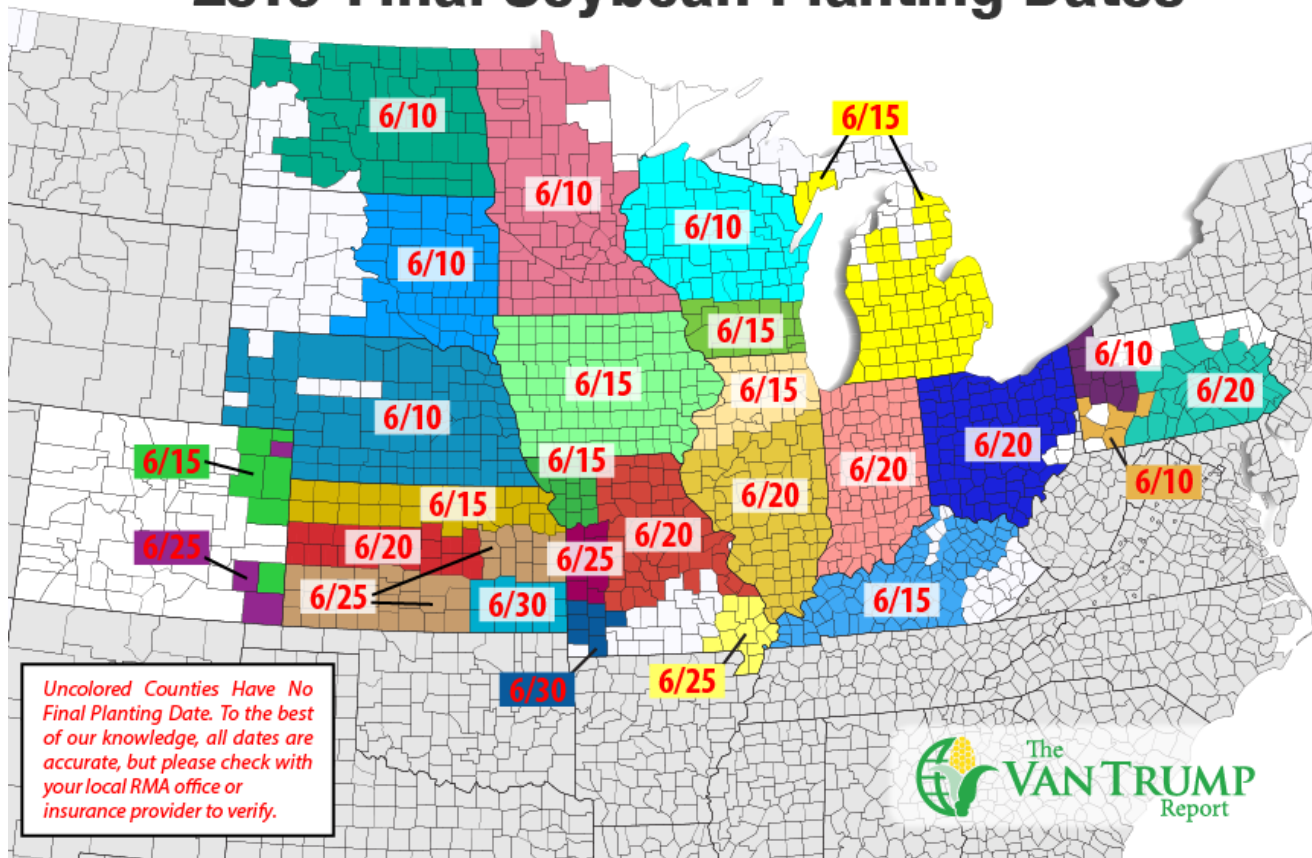







Iowa	99	99	98	89	19
Kansas	90	94	82	74	26
Kentucky	87	86	78	74	13
Louisiana	99	100	98	98	3
Michigan	96	86	94	53	8
Minnesota	100	99	98	94	15
Mississippi	97	98	95	91	6
Missouri	92	94	81	57	20
Nebraska	99	100	98	91	12
North Carolina	81	79	75	74	6
North Dakota	100	100	99	96	8
Ohio	96	95	94	46	14
South Dakota	100	99	98	70	27
Tennessee	86	87	79	85	8
Wisconsin	96	96	96	77	17
Total	96	97	93	77	17

U.S. Soybeans Acres Left to Plant [week 24]

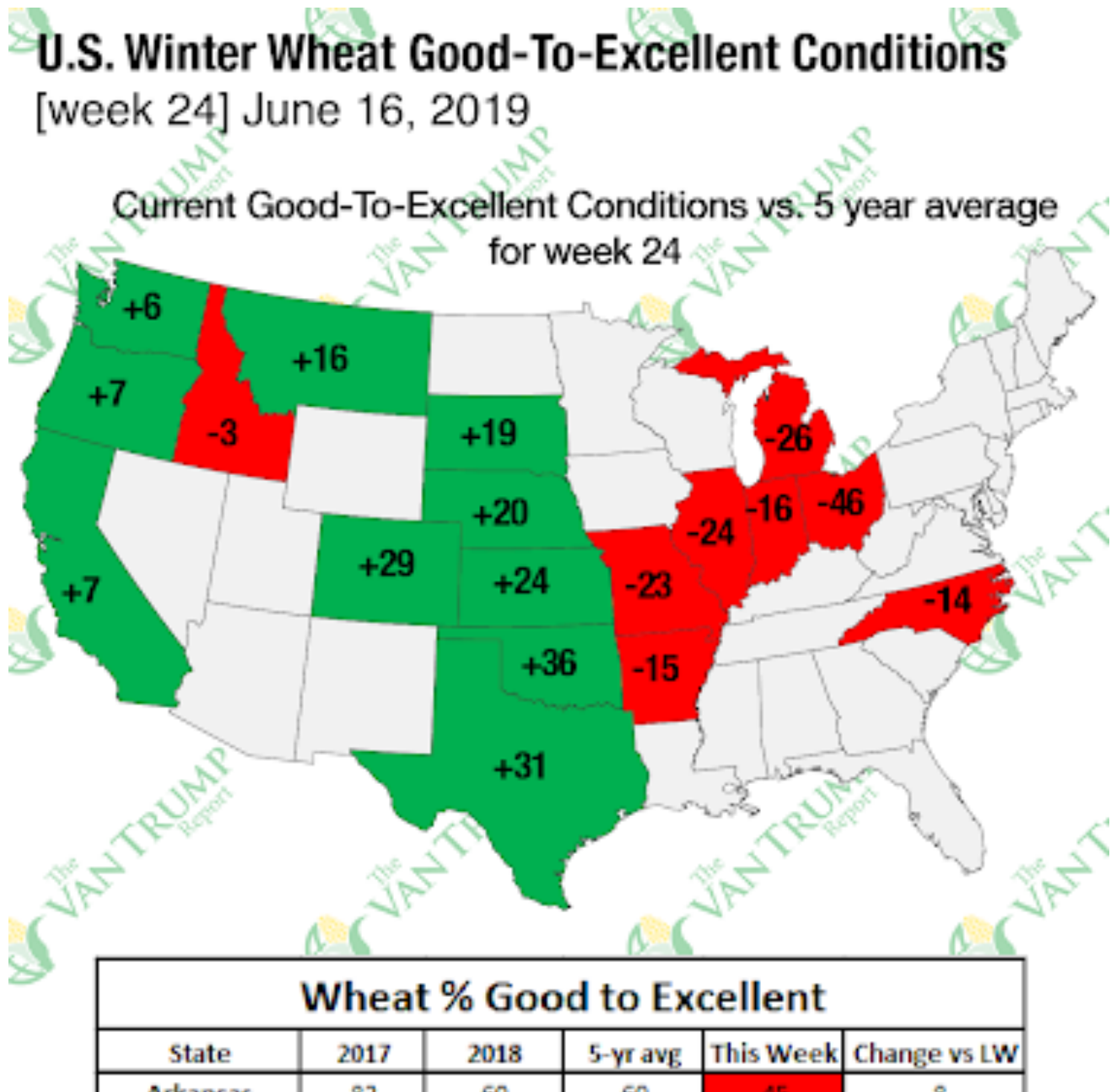
State	Acres	Planted	Not Planted	% Planted
Illinois	10,500,000	7,350,000	3,150,000	70%
Ohio	4,950,000	2,277,000	2,673,000	46%
Missouri	5,500,000	3,135,000	2,365,000	57%
Indiana	5,700,000	3,648,000	2,052,000	64%
South Dakota	5,200,000	3,640,000	1,560,000	70%
Kansas	4,950,000	3,663,000	1,287,000	74%
Iowa	9,400,000	8,366,000	1,034,000	89%
Michigan	2,200,000	1,166,000	1,034,000	53%
Arkansas	3,100,000	2,449,000	651,000	79%
Wisconsin	2,150,000	1,655,500	494,500	77%
Nebraska	5,400,000	4,914,000	486,000	91%
Kentucky	1,750,000	1,295,000	455,000	74%
Minnesota	7,300,000	6,862,000	438,000	94%
North Carolina	1,550,000	1,147,000	403,000	74%
North Dakota	6,500,000	6,240,000	260,000	96%
Tennessee	1,500,000	1,275,000	225,000	85%
Mississippi	2,000,000	1,820,000	180,000	91%
Louisiana	1,130,000	1,107,400	22,600	98%
Total	80,780,000	62,200,600	18,579,400	77%

2019 Final Soybean Planting Dates



Wheat traders believe prices as of late are predominately tied to corn. There's a ton of questions being asked regarding what happens if corn prices start to tumble? Most suspect wheat prices fall more aggressively if corn comes under pressure. There's clearly a large surplus of wheat in the global marketplace, which sparks questions about demand if prices continue to push higher? Will it substitute in larger doses for corn feeding? Will there be a larger export interest? With supplies overly burdensome, it's somewhat difficult to forecast and play out. If stocks were tight we would have a much more clear vision and direction about price flow. This scenario is a much more tricky. From a traditional fundamental perspective, with U.S. ending stocks +1.0 billion bushels and record global ending stocks, it's extremely tough to argue anything bullish. But with politics, Fed policy, and a few weather wild-cards now in the mix it's making the market more difficult to forecast. The U.S. winter wheat harvest is now thought to be 8% complete vs. what's historically been 20% harvested by this date. All U.S. states are running behind their traditional harvest pace. Oklahoma is just 16% harvested vs. the 5-

year average of 56% harvested by this date. The Kansas crop was reported at only 1% complete vs. the 5-year average of 12%. As expected, winter wheat conditions were mostly "unchanged" at 64% rated "Good-to-Excellent". The spring wheat crop is now thought to be mostly planted, with 95% reported "emerged" and 2% reported as "headed". Spring wheat crop conditions are lowered -4% to 77% now rated "Good-to-Excellent", which is just a hair below conditions reported last year at this time. As a producer, I'm staying patient. I have 70% of our estimated new-crop cash bushels priced and want to pause for a moment. I am keeping a close eye on the JUL20 contract and kicking around the idea of reducing a bit of next year's price risk.



State	6/11	6/18	6/25	7/2	7/9
California	90	95	88	95	5
Colorado	54	51	50	79	-1
Idaho	64	77	73	70	3
Illinois	63	58	57	33	3
Indiana	58	67	68	52	-2
Kansas	55	18	34	58	0
Michigan	72	78	70	44	2
Missouri	66	51	53	30	-7
Montana	41	84	63	79	-7
Nebraska	56	61	51	71	2
North Carolina	63	71	59	45	-3
Ohio	68	82	76	30	-1
Oklahoma	69	10	33	69	6
Oregon	51	61	54	61	0
South Dakota	21	44	45	64	4
Texas	51	19	32	63	-5
Washington	72	88	64	70	-1
Total	41	39	57	64	0

Cattle Comments: A very light week of cash cattle trade reported last week with both TX and KS only trading a few thousand and NE trading less than 50% of the prior week's volume. The trade has begun to separate itself into a two tiered market with spot sales trading around 112.00/CWT and forward sales at 110.00/CWT for early July. Basis remains seasonally strong relative to what is historically normal and the very strong basis represented by the 110.00/CWT trade basis Aug19 LC will continue to support forward sales. The spread between KS show lists and NE show lists has likely reached its seasonally wide level with KS lists being larger than NE. Thus, the spread between the KS cash price and NE cash prices is at a seasonal wide level with NE trading approximately a 2.00-3.00/CWT premium over the southern regions. Both of these will normalize moving forward with southern supplies shrinking and the price spreads narrowing. The comprehensive beef report was released today and printed 218.15/CWT or 1% higher than a year ago. Total volumes are slightly firmer versus a year ago, but export sales are lagging at 5% lower year-over-year. The technical outlook for the

cattle complex remains down for now as we fight with the middle Bollinger band and note the longer term moving averages trending lower. Fundamentally, there are headwinds with higher corn prices, decreased leverage and historically large supplies to deal with. Strong packing margins and kill pace should offset some of the negative implications and help to keep feed yards current on marketings.



> **Huawei Taking a Hit!** *The U.S. campaign against Huawei Technologies is taking a toll, with the company's founder forecasting a hit to revenue of about - \$30 billion this year and next, following lower-than-expected growth in the wake of a U.S. export blacklisting and other actions against the Chinese technology giant. (Source: The Wall Street Journal)*

> **FCC Task Force to get Broadband to Farmers and Ranchers Faster:** *The Federal Communications Commission (FCC) has formed a task force to look into delivering high-speed broadband for the ag industry to unlock the efficiency, innovation, and improvements at farms and ranches. Keep in mind, until faster connectivity exists, farmers will not be able to benefit from the implementation of the Internet of Things (IoT) and smart farming capabilities. I believe this is*

definitely a critical step in the revival of rural areas.

> Brazil Sees U.S. Ethanol Demand Increasing: *Brazil's Copersucar SA, the world's largest sugar and ethanol merchant, expects ethanol demand in the United States could increase by 50% when a new U.S. policy allowing larger sales of gasoline blended with 15% ethanol, known as E15, is fully implemented. From what I understand, Copersucar's Chief Executive João Roberto Teixeira said in a call with reporters that the company sees strong potential for ethanol sales in the United States, where it operates through its subsidiary Eco-Energy. I'm told Teixeira believes the market potential in the next two to three years, as the policy is gradually implemented, is significant.*

> EU Crops Get Some Needed Rains: *Beneficial rainfall in much of the European Union has led the bloc's crop monitoring service MARS, to raise monthly yield forecasts for this year's wheat and maize harvests, but parched conditions in Spain contributed to a downward revision for barley. I'm told MARS raised its forecast of the 2019 soft wheat yield in the EU to 90.7 bpa from 89.96 last month. Upgrades reflect an 8.6% increase above last year's drought-affected level and 2.7% higher than the average of the past five years. (Source: Reuters)*

> Trump Opens 1.4 Million Acres and Closes 7,500 Regulations: *Since Teddy Roosevelt, President Trump has shown he understands the importance of others getting outside to boat, hunt, fish, shoot, and hike and their demands for access to federal lands and waterways. Interior Secretary David Bernhardt, who is spearheading the project and says Trump is taking a 'Git-R-Done' approach. According to the Secretary, the president fundamentally gets that hunters and anglers are the true conservationists in our society. Read more [HERE](#) to see more details of the aggressive plans to open the acres while eliminating a mountain of regulations.*

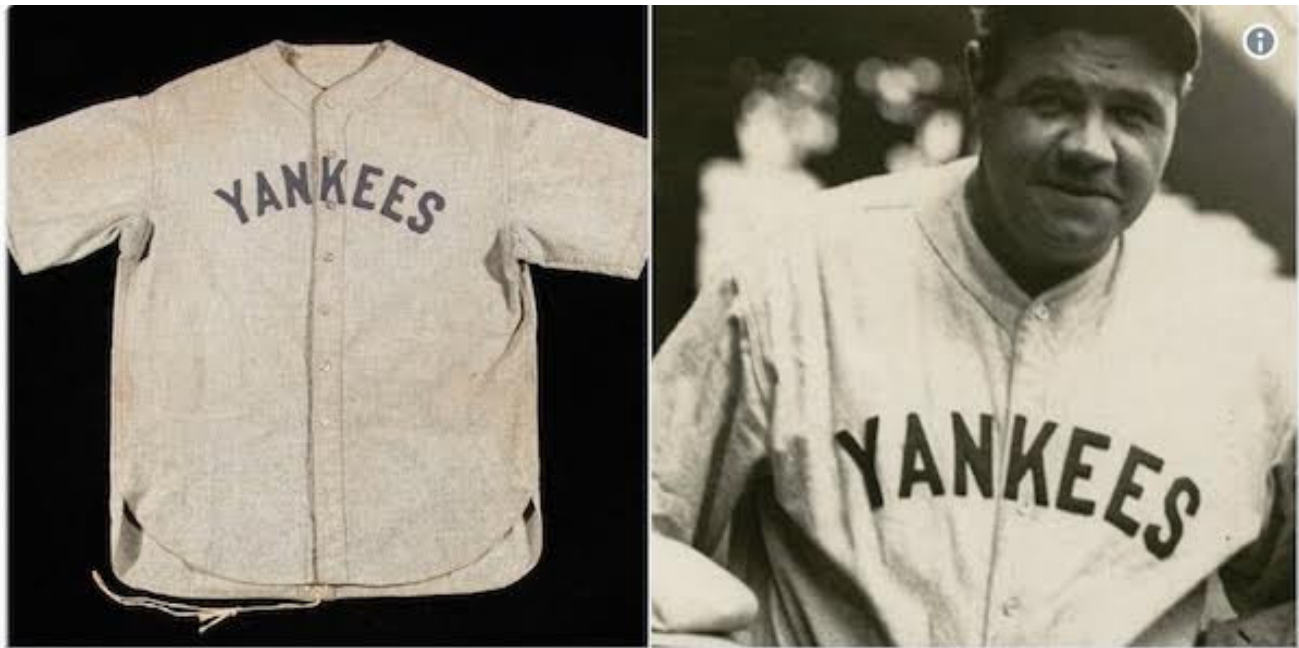
> Minimum Wage Stagnation in U.S. Sets New Record: *Nine years, 10 months, three weeks, and three days is exactly how long it's been since the federal minimum wage last budged. Keep in mind, this sets a new record for the amount of time the minimum wage has been stagnant. It's worth mentioning,*

when the federal minimum wage was last raised in 2009, it went up to its current threshold of \$7.25 an hour (adjusted for inflation, it's now worth less than it was in 1950). In contrast, 29 states have now enacted minimum wages higher than the federal mandate. These moves range from New Mexico, whose \$7.50 minimum wage is just a mere 25 cents higher than the federal to California, which is phasing in a \$15 wage floor. Keep in mind, many companies, most notably Amazon, have also enacted a \$15 minimum for workers. Click [HERE](#) to see how more businesses across the country are supporting the initiative!

> You Can Now Buy A Used Model 3 Tesla... Online: *Used Model 3 cars have been available for a while now, but only through direct-sales by owners or used vehicle resellers, but now I'm told the EV maker has started selling used Model 3s online in the San Francisco Bay Area, and some of them are potentially good deals. From what I understand, you can pay slightly over \$40,000 for a 2017 Long Range model where you'd be happy to get a brand new Standard Range Plus version for that much. Read more [HERE](#).*

> Sothebys Going Once... Twice... Sold For \$3.7 Billion: *Sotheby's, the 275-year-old auction house, is getting acquired by billionaire media mogul Patrick Drahi. Shares of Sotheby's spiked nearly 60% yesterday after the New York auction house said Drahi was acquiring it for \$3.7 billion. Drahi acquired Sotheby's at \$57 per share, which is a 61% premium to the stock's Friday closing price. From what I understand, the deal is expected to close in the fourth quarter of this year pending shareholder approval and would return Sotheby's to the private market after 31 years as a public company. Read More [HERE](#)!*

> Bambino Sets Another Record... Jersey Sells for \$5.64 Million: *Babe Ruth continues to leave his mark on history as a worn road jersey broke the world record for the most expensive piece of sports memorabilia Sunday, selling for \$5.64 million, Hunt Auctions announced. I'm told the jersey, dating back to Ruth's days with the New York Yankees from 1928-30, broke the previous record of \$4.4 million, which was also for a Ruth jersey — one from 1920. It's worth mentioning that the road jersey was rare because it was the only time in franchise history when "Yankees" appeared on the front of the uniform, and from what I understand, there are only six left of any quality. Read more [HERE](#).*

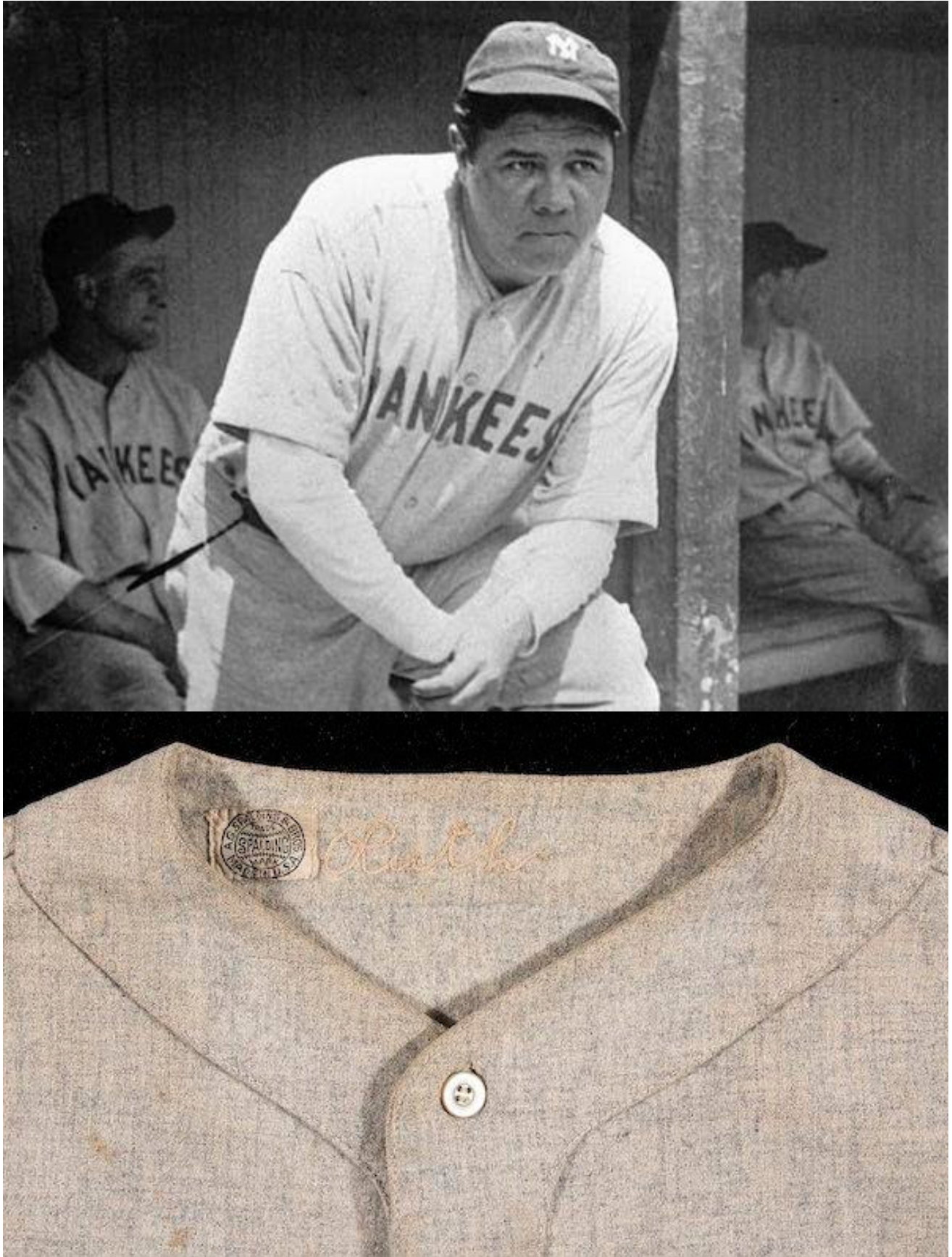


Hunt Auctions
@HuntAuctions



The Babe it still breaking records! Jersey worn by @mlb and @Yankees icon Babe Ruth c. 1928-30 sets a world record price of \$5,640,000 for any piece of sports memorabilia!! Live auction at @yankeestadium still has the mythical presence of the Bambino #Yankees #SultanofSwat

♡ 1,323 12:29 PM - Jun 15, 2019 · Bronx, NY



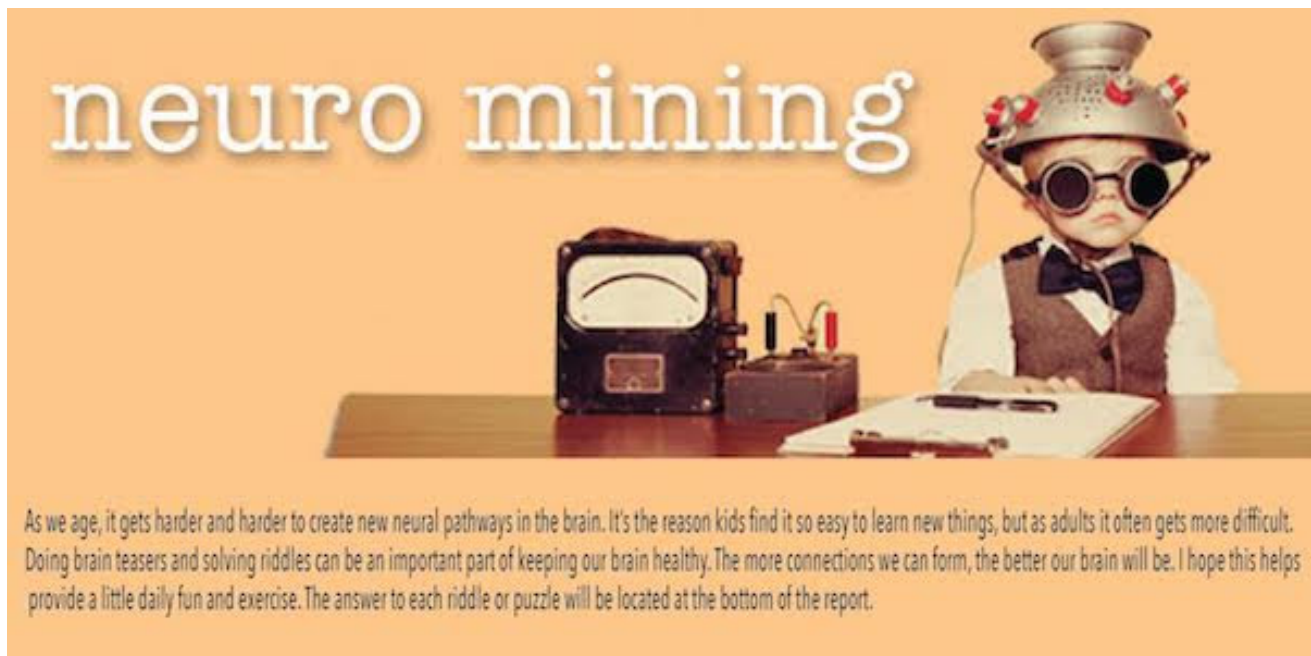


Eastern Indiana – *We had an influx of tornados in and around my home as well as the farm this weekend. It got a little touch and go for a short period of time. I think we had 4 touchdowns within just a few miles of my operation. The worst part about the situation was a large amount of rain the weather brought with it. We had anywhere from 2-3 inches of rain on my farms, but several other areas had upwards of 6 inches. We finished soybeans right before the storms in less than ideal conditions, but if we would have waited there's virtually no way we would be back in the field inside the next week. We beat the soybean and corn deadlines by a day or two each, so we are fortunate on that front. Nearly all the later planted corn looks better than the early planted fields that were mudded in.*

Western Wisconsin – *I farm and run a few other businesses in southwest portion of Wisconsin. My work puts me on the road quite a few days every year for the last 30 years. I travel mostly the Midwest, so I see a lot of cropland. I have never in 30 years seen the crops as a whole look so terrible. Last week I traveled from Minneapolis to Chicago and I saw many unplanted fields, many fields either completely under water, or have significant drown out spots. Many fields were just planted or just plain looked poor to put it kindly. I feel like we are in for a much wilder ride than anyone expected 45 days ago.*

Southcentral Missouri – *We are getting nailed with another significant rain event today that will grind our soybean planting to a complete halt for at least the next 4 days. We are on the verge of wrapping up, but we can't seem to get the last 300 acres planted. If we are not able to plant in the next 10 days, I would guess it's in our best interest to take preventive plant, but I still need to crunch the numbers. We could probably force soybeans in but I'm afraid our yield*

drag could be significant if we did that. We do have a few acres that we will double crop as soon as we can get this wheat off. The corn is hit or miss right now and some are uneven while other fields look pretty darn good. We have tried to patch everything we can in, but we still have a few acres that will just be bare.



TODAY'S RIDDLE: What happened when the magician got angry?



One of the World's Most Iconic Pioneers

It was on this day in 1928, American aviator, Amelia Earhart became the first woman to fly across the Atlantic Ocean. In addition, she set many other records, wrote best-selling books, and was also a founding member of the National

Woman's Party as well as an early supporter of the Equal Rights Amendment. In 1935, Earhart became a visiting faculty member at Purdue University as an advisor to aeronautical engineering and a career counselor to women students. During an attempt to make a circumnavigational flight of the globe in 1937 in a Purdue-funded Lockheed Model 10-E Electra, Earhart and, navigator, Fred Noonan disappeared over the central Pacific Ocean near Howland Island. Fascination with her life, career, and disappearance continues to this day. Below are some interesting facts about her life I thought you might find interesting:

Born In Aitchison, Kansas - *Amelia Earhart was born in Aitchison, Kansas, on July 24, 1897, in the home of her maternal grandfather, Alfred Gideon Otis, who was a former federal judge, the president of the Aitchison Savings Bank and a leading citizen in the town.*

Raised the Right Way - *Amelia and her sister enjoyed an unconventional upbringing, especially for its time. Her mother, Amy Earhart, always said she didn't believe in molding her children into "nice little girls." Instead, they were raised to have a big spirit of adventure as she and her sister set off daily to explore their own little world. As a child, Earhart spent long hours climbing trees, hunting rats with a rifle, belly-slamming her sled downhill, and jumping homemade ramps.*

The Family Moves To Iowa - *Her father, Edwin Earhart, was a claims officer for the Rock Island Railroad. In 1907, he was transferred to Des Moines, Iowa. The next year, at the age of 10, Amelia saw her first aircraft at the Iowa State Fair in Des Moines. The children spilt time between Aitchison and Des Moines for the next couple of years. Then at age 12, she was enrolled full-time in the Des Moines public schools.*

The Move To Minnesota Then Chicago - *In 1915, her father, who had a major drinking problem, was again transferred to St. Paul, Minnesota. He was about to be transferred again to Missouri, but Amy Earhart decided it was time to take her children to Chicago, where they lived with friends. Amelia made an unusual condition in the choice of her next schooling; she canvassed nearby high schools in Chicago to*

find the best science program. She rejected the high school nearest her home when she complained that the chemistry lab was "just like a kitchen sink". She eventually enrolled in Hyde Park High School, but spent a miserable semester where a yearbook caption captured the essence of her unhappiness, "A.E. - the girl in brown who walks alone." Earhart graduated from Chicago's Hyde Park High School in 1916. Throughout her troubled childhood, she had continued to aspire to a future career; she kept a scrapbook of newspaper clippings about successful women in predominantly male-oriented fields including film direction and production, law, advertising, management, and mechanical engineering.

Helping WWI Veterans - *After finishing school, Amelia went to Toronto to visit her sister in Toronto. World War I had been raging and Earhart saw the returning wounded soldiers. After receiving training as a nurse's aide from the Red Cross, she began working to help those who need it.*

The Day That Changed Her Life - *In December of 1920, Amelia went out to California to visit her parents, who had decided to retire out West. Earhart and her father visited a Long Beach airfield on December 28th where a well-known pilot named Frank Hawks gave her a ride that would forever change Earhart's life. "By the time I had got two or three hundred feet off the ground," she said, "I knew I had to fly." After that 10-minute flight (which cost her father \$10), she immediately decided she wanted to learn to fly. Working at a variety of jobs including photographer, truck driver, and stenographer at the local telephone company, she managed to save \$1,000 for flying lessons. Earhart had her first lesson on January 3, 1921, at Kinner Field near Long Beach. In order to reach the airfield, Earhart had to take a bus to the end of the line, then walk four miles. Six months later, Earhart purchased a secondhand bright yellow Kinner Airster biplane she nicknamed "The Canary." On October 22, 1922, Earhart flew the Airster to an altitude of 14,000 feet, setting a world record for female pilots. On May 15, 1923,*

Earhart became only the 16th woman in U.S. history to be issued a pilot's license.

Her First Non-Stop Flight - *After Charles Lindbergh's solo flight across the Atlantic in 1927, Earhart was asked if she wanted to try and become the first woman to make the journey. Little did she know she was being asked to accompany pilot Wilmer Stultz and his copilot/mechanic Louis Gordon Amelia was to be on board to keep the flight log. The team departed from Trepassey Harbor, Newfoundland, in a Fokker F.VIIb/3m on June 17, 1928, landing at Pwll near Burry Port, South Wales, exactly 20 hours and 40 minutes later. There is a commemorative blue plaque at the site. Since most of the flight was on instruments and Earhart had no training for this type of flying, she did not pilot the aircraft. When interviewed after landing, she said, "Stultz did all the flying—had to. I was just baggage, like a sack of potatoes." She added, "... maybe someday I'll try it alone."*

The Ultimate Goal Achieved - *On the morning of May 20, 1932, 34-year-old Earhart set off from Harbour Grace, Newfoundland, with a copy of the Telegraph-Journal, given to her by journalist Stuart Trueman, intended to confirm the date of the flight. She intended to fly to Paris in her single engine Lockheed Vega 5B to emulate Charles Lindbergh's solo flight five years earlier. Her technical advisor for the flight was famed Norwegian American aviator Bernt Balchen who helped prepare her aircraft. He also played the role of "decoy" for the press as he was ostensibly preparing Earhart's Vega for his own Arctic flight. After a flight lasting 14 hours, 56 minutes during which she contended with strong northerly winds, icy conditions and mechanical problems, Earhart landed in a pasture at Culmore, north of Derry, Northern Ireland. The landing was witnessed by Cecil King and T. Sawyer. When a farm hand asked, "Have you flown far?" Earhart replied, "From America." She had completed her life long dream!*

How It All Ended: *There has been a ton of speculation and theories presented throughout the years, but the bottom-line is Amelia Earhart*

disappeared somewhere over the Pacific Ocean on July 2, 1937, at just 39 years of age. After becoming the first female pilot to fly a plane across the Atlantic Ocean, Earhart set off to circumnavigate the globe in July 1937. Her plane vanished without a trace... some believe she was captured by the Japanese. You can see their evidence [HERE](#)





Levi's Breakthrough Technology Using Hemp

Levi Strauss & Co. has been working hard in recent years to rebrand itself as a forward-thinking, sustainably-minded denim company, and most agree it has done

an admirable job. To begin with, they have introduced a water-saving finishing process, which offers recycling services for old clothes in all U.S. stores and a line of jeans made from old fishing nets. In addition, their latest innovation could open the door wider for hemp producers as they recently debuted a collection of apparel made from a 69% cotton and 31% hemp blend that feels extremely similar cotton. Keep in mind, hemp feeling coarse is the leading reason it hasn't been more widely embraced by clothing manufacturers. That could all change with this latest innovation from Levi's. I've heard they are keeping the breakthrough technology fairly close to the vest at the moment. From what I understand, it's a process developed by fiber technology specialists that softens the normally coarse hemp strands. Levi's likes what can be done with hemp when compared to cotton demand for fresh water in both processing and cultivation. It sounds like the play for Levi's is to keep the technology long enough to give them a good head-start then license it to others who are wanting to enter the blended apparel space. While the majority of producers in the hemp space are currently focused on profits from CBD oils and a few industrial uses, the key moving forward is going to be finding and creating a direct "grower-to-end user" relationship. As a producer, it doesn't matter if it's beef, corn, or a variety of wheat because it's vitally important that you are constantly keeping yourself out in front of the newest trends and networking to find relationships that can help leverage your farm's production and overall position in the space. You can check out Levi's newest line [HERE](#). (Source: Forbes, BusinessInsider, Levi.com)





COTTON

- An acre of land produces just about 800 lbs of cotton fiber.
- 9.67 liters of water is needed to grow 1 kg of cotton fiber.
- Cotton requires the use of a lot of pesticides and herbicides which can pollute water systems and scorch the land.
- 25% of the worldwide use of pesticides can be attributed to the growing of cotton.
- Cotton, even when organically-grown, is not nearly as sustainable as hemp.

HEMP

- Can produce twice the amount of fiber per acre of land as cotton
- Only 2.13 liters of water is needed to grow 1kg of hemp fiber.
- Hemp does not need any pesticides and can even deter the growth of weeds.
- When dried in the field, hemp gives back up to 60% of nutrients to the soil
- Even when cultivated on the same plot of land for 14 consecutive years, hemp will not deplete the soil nor will its yield decrease.
- Hemp has been one of the best rotational crops since ancient times.

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One of My Favorite Stories of Success

We all admire the giant Bass Pro superstores and the excitement they bring along when a new one comes to town. Something you might not know is that the mammoth retailer was started by a young man in the back of his fathers liquor store. That's right, John Morris, the founder of Bass Pro began his business by putting in a "fishing section" in the back of a Springfield, Missouri, Brown Derby liquor store owned by his father, using about 80 sqft of space. Supposedly a young Johnny Morris sold homemade bait and worms, proving popular enough that many people wanted the opportunity to buy them and send them to friends and family members around the country. Thus began the famous Bass Pro Shops catalog, which was first mailed back in 1974. Another little bit of insight folks might not know is the fact Johnny Morris developed a passion for fishing from his father, and while attending college he actually became known as very good angler. In fact there was a large bass tournament on Table Rock Lake that Morris entered and went on to qualify for five straight prestigious Bassmaster Classics. While on the professional circuit he met anglers and lure makers from all over the country,

witnessed the changes taking place in tackle, and quickly realized the importance of having the best technology and gear. Soon Johnny's small little liquor store bait and tackle business became the world's largest mail order sporting goods store. Morris has said he had no real long-term plan in place for growth, but rather just a love for fishing and an innovative idea to provide one-stop shopping for specialized tackle not found elsewhere. In 1978, Johnny Morris revolutionized the marine industry when he introduced Bass Tracker, the world's first "fish ready" professionally rigged and nationally marketed boat, motor and trailer package. For the first time, fishermen could buy quality fishing boats "factory direct" at tremendous savings. Today, Bass Pro Shops also owns White River Marine Group which manufactures and distributes boats under the brand names Ranger, Nitro, Triton, Tahoe, Tracker, Sun Tracker, Regency, Mako, ProCraft, SeaCraft and Ascend, which all make up some of America's best-selling boats. In fact, Tracker has remained America's #1 selling fishing boat for more than 35 years running. In 1984, construction began on the Outdoor World Catalog Showroom in Springfield, Missouri. Big Cedar Lodge opened in 1988 on Table Rock Lake. In 1995, Bass Pro Shops Sportsman's Warehouse opened in Atlanta, Georgia, its first store outside the state of Missouri. In September 2017, Bass Pro Shops acquired Cabela's for \$5.5 billion. As of right now Bass Pro Shops has over 100 existing and proposed stores in the United States and Canada. Bass Pro estimates they now draw over +200 million unique visitors to their stores each year -- that's +100 million more than attended a Major League Baseball game each year. The company said the average customer drives more than 50 miles to visit a store and stays for more than two hours. Founder, John Morris, who is now 71 years old, also likes to call himself the CFO "Chief Fishing Officer". He is now estimated to be worth a whopping +\$6.5 billion... not bad for a small town boy from Missouri!. In conservation circles Bass Pro Shops founder Johnny Morris is often referred to as a modern-day Teddy Roosevelt for his leadership, personal commitment and dedication to conservation efforts. If you haven't visited or been to Johnny's "Top of the Rock" you have to make it happen. You can Learn More [HERE!](#)

Pictured below is the original Bass Pro Shop, one of newest stores to open, the amazing Top of the Rock, and a picture of Johnny fishing. Wow, what an American success story!



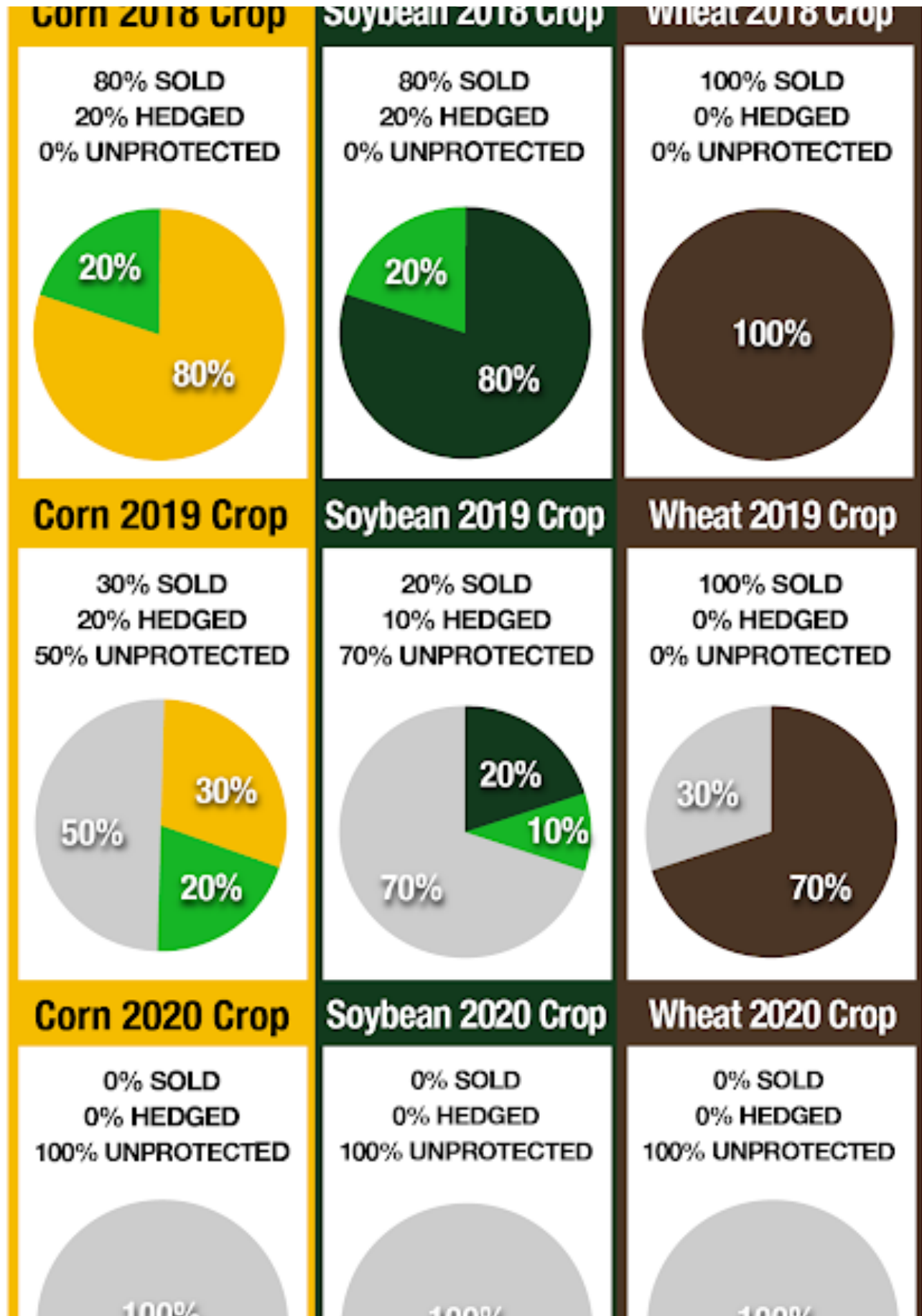


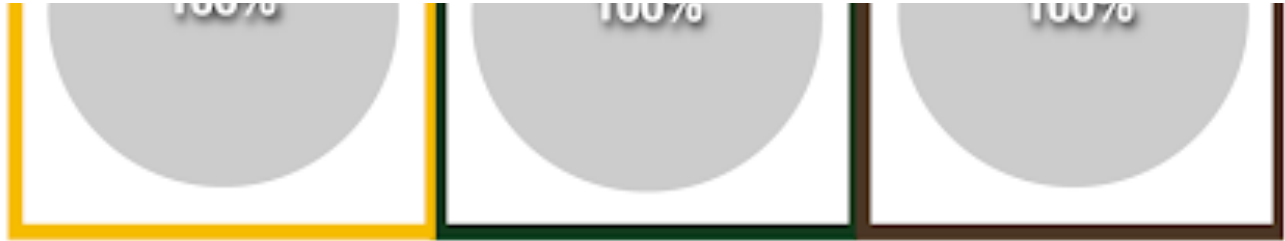


ANSWER to riddle: He pulled his hare out.

CASH SALES & HEDGING TOTALS

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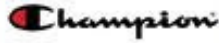
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